

Lebanon delays U.N. debate

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A U.N. Security Council meeting scheduled to continue debate on Tuesday on a Lebanese complaint against Israel has been postponed until Wednesday at Lebanon's request, a U.N. spokesman said. No time has been set for the resumption of the debate, which began Monday. A source at the Lebanese U.N. mission said the delay was to allow time for further consultations on a resolution before the council condemning Israeli "acts of aggression and abusive practices and measures" in southern Lebanon. Lebanon had accused Israel of a series of recent attacks in the occupied southern sector that left eight people dead and 35 wounded and caused extensive property damage. A council source said Lebanon might be willing to negotiate changes in the text to ensure additional support.

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Regent receives U.S. official

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, received in his office on Tuesday Admiral William Crowe, the U.S. joint chiefs of staff, who arrived in Amman earlier in the day at the head of a military delegation on an official visit to Jordan. The meeting was attended by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and U.S. Charge d'Affaires in Jordan Edward G. Gneim. Adm. Crowe was earlier received by Gen. Sharif Zaid at the Army Headquarters in the presence of senior aides.

Sheikh Sabah meets Soviet minister

KUWAIT (AP) — Deputy Soviet Defence Minister Vladimir Govorov held a session of talks here on Tuesday with Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah on ways of upgrading military cooperation between the two countries, official sources reported. They said the two men also discussed the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, stressing the necessity of ending it. General Govorov arrived on Saturday on a six-day official visit, leading a high-powered military delegation.

EC may consider arms embargo

THE HAGUE (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers may consider an arms embargo against Iraq at a special meeting after a general council session in Luxembourg on Jan. 27, the Dutch Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. Plans for a separate European political cooperation meeting to discuss the U.S. call for sanctions in The Hague on Jan. 21 had to be scrapped because it proved impossible to assemble all 12 ministers at that time, a spokesman said.

NATO installations on alert

COPENHAGEN (AP) — NATO officials in Denmark said Tuesday that security at the Western defense alliance's installations in Denmark and Norway had been increased because of warnings of possible attacks in Scandinavia. Information chief Erik Alstrup of NATO's Baltic headquarters told the Associated Press that extra guards had been placed around its facilities and that surveillance had been increased.

Shamir: Israel will continue Lebanon flights

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Tuesday that Syrian missiles would not stop Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon, and Israel would seek their removal "carefully and cautiously." Israel has "to continue our reconnaissance flights over Lebanon as part of our efforts against (resistance) bases," Shamir told visiting U.S. Senator Albert Gore, according to a Foreign Ministry official. "Nevertheless, we have to find a solution, carefully and cautiously. No one wants a confrontation," Shamir was quoted as saying.

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Battles rage in Aden after reported coup bid

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Battles raged in Aden on Tuesday in an apparent power struggle between President Ali Nasser Mohammad and supporters of his comrade-in-arms in the fight for South Yemen's independence from Britain 20 years ago.

Britain's Foreign Office reported fighting near the airport and other areas of the South Yemeni capital, and foreign vessels trapped in the harbour said gunboats were exchanging fire with tanks along the shoreline.

Diplomatic sources quoted by Reuters reported air raids on the airport, and unconfirmed reports said the presidential palace and ships in Aden harbour had also been bombed.

Aden Radio said on Monday ex-President Abdul Fatah Ismail and three other top Socialist Party officials had been executed after staging a coup attempt and a bid to kill President Mohammad.

But diplomatic sources said the four ringleaders, who also included former Vice-President and Defence Minister Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar, may be still alive and leading an apparent struggle to return South Yemen to doctrinaire Marxist rule.

A Kuwaiti newspaper, Al-Sayyid, said President Mohammad, 49, had been wounded in the assassination attempt.

Soviet military vehicles were reported to be involved in the fighting. But sources said it was not clear which side the Soviets were backing. The Soviet Union maintains a sizeable military presence in South Yemen.

"A Japanese freighter called

the Sanko Daffodil reported by radio to its headquarters in Japan that heavy fighting involving tanks at the Aden harbour and gunboats in the waters broke out," one shipping executive told the A.P. The harbour-side Italian embassy was destroyed in that battle. The nearby British embassy has been caught in the cross-fire.

Aden Radio on Monday confirmed the assassination attempt but made no allusion to the president's reported injuries. The radio has been off the air since midnight. All telephone and telex links with Aden have been interrupted. Aden airport remained closed.

The broadcast added on Monday that leaders of the abortive coup have been executed after a summary trial.

"We have information received by wireless from the port of Aden about President Mohammad being hospitalised for serious injuries he suffered in the assassination attempt," said one maritime shipping executive, who insisted on anonymity. "Our men in Aden have been told by official and rebel sources that the president was critically injured," he told the A.P.

Reports reaching London from Aden said fighting continued throughout the day Monday and resumed at about dawn Tuesday.

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Abdul Fatah Ismail

Arab protests force Israelis to cut short Haram Al Sharif visit

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A team of Israeli parliamentarians were prevented from entering a religious site in the Old City on Tuesday for the second time in less than a week and police fired tear gas to disperse angry Palestinians protesting against the visit.

Angry Palestinians chanting "We are the sword of Mohammed" confronted the parliamentarians during the stormy visit to Haram Al Sharif, site of one of Islam's holiest shrines.

The 20 legislators, many from Jewish extremist parties, said they would urge the Israeli government to end exclusive Islamic control of the area, which the Israelis call Temple Mount.

"We witnessed the very severe situation of the state of Israel on the Temple Mount," said legislator Amnon Linn of the Labour Party. "Anyone who says Israel is sovereign over the Temple Mount is deluding himself."

But Prime Minister Shimon Peres told a ministerial committee

that despite Muslim supervision, Israel's "sovereignty is not in doubt," and said anyone who provokes unrest at the holy sites is seeking to undermine peace between Arabs and Jews. A Peres aide said.

Dozens of armed police patrolled the walled Old City and Palestinian merchants closed their shops, apparently anticipating trouble over the pre-announced visit.

Before Tuesday's visit, police barred the gates of the area to Muslim worshippers, but a large number of Palestinians were already inside and stayed during the visit by the Israeli team.

Just outside one of the gates, police used tear gas to disperse Palestinian protesters and several Palestinians were arrested for "inciting disturbances."

The visit was cut short two hours after it began because the Islamic Council, which supervises the complex, refused to unlock a vast cavern under the complex.

Council spokesman Moh-

ammad Jamil Al Rifai said the Knesset members had violated the agreed terms for the visit when one recited prayers. The Koran forbids anyone who is not Muslim from praying in the area. Mr. Rifai told reporters, "Blood will flow if the (cavern) doors were forced."

Mr. Rifai warned. Legislator Rabbi Eliezer Waldman of the extremist Tehiya Party pulled out a prayer book at the start of the tour and started chanting psalms of David. Muslims shouted at him to stop, and two Israeli legislators left the area.

"It was provocation and sadly we are witness to a dangerous process that could turn the political conflict between the Arabs and us into a Jihad," left-wing parliamentarian Shulamit Aloni, who was in the group, said.

Police said they could not guarantee the parliamentarians' security and the group decided to leave.

Geula Cohen, an outspoken

(Continued on page 2)

Gemayel returns home from Syria

Ceasefire takes hold in east Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — President Amin Gemayel returned to Beirut on Tuesday after two days of crucial talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad as the Lebanese army enforced a ceasefire in east Beirut after 20 people were killed and 60 injured in savage street fighting between supporters and opponents of a Syrian-sponsored peace plan to end the Lebanese civil war.

Mr. Gemayel, under pressure to accept the plan, said Tuesday the way to peace lay through dialogue, and not through fighting.

Mr. Gemayel, who has yet to give full backing to the peace plan, has been warned by opponents in Beirut that he may be forced to accept it.

But a source close to the Lebanese leader quoted him as saying on Tuesday: "There will be no peace by force, but through dialogue and convictions."

Mr. Gemayel was referring to the fierce fighting in Beirut which erupted as he flew to Syria on Monday.

The two leaders held another round of discussions on Tuesday, following two rounds of talks on Monday, and the source told reporters afterwards they had been "objective, positive, useful and satisfactory."

The two presidents had "underlined the need to end the Lebanese crisis as soon as possible," he added.

In Beirut, a source close to Mr. Gemayel told Reuters he would be trying to persuade Mr. Assad to treat the peace plan solely as a "springboard for inter-Lebanese dialogue."

But the Syrian president is pressing hard for speedy implementation of the pact as the only way to end the war and achieve national reconciliation among the Lebanese.

Mr. Gemayel is believed to have conveyed to Mr. Assad objections of hardline Christian politicians who oppose the pact's proposals to give Lebanon's Muslim majority more political leverage, reducing the powers of the Christian-held presidency.

In east Beirut, Christian-orientated units of the Lebanese army deployed in buffer zones in the battle-scarred districts of Sin Al Fil, Dora, Mekalles and Dikwanch to smother inter-Christian hostilities over the peace plan.

Soldiers riding tanks and manning recoilless rifles took up positions at key intersections, but witnesses told Reuters gunmen still roamed side streets in the mostly Christian east Beirut.

U.S. jets scrambled against Libyan MiGs

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. navy F-18 jets were launched from the aircraft carrier Coral Sea to intercept two Libyan MIG-25 jets over the Mediterranean on Monday after the Libyan planes briefly shadowed a U.S. military reconnaissance aircraft, Reagan administration officials said Tuesday.

But the Libyan jets returned to their base and there was no hostile action, said the officials, who spoke to Reuters on condition that they not be identified.

"The Libyan jets showed no hostile intent and nobody was threatened," one official said. "But given the delicate nature of relations now, we scrambled fighters from the aircraft carrier Coral Sea during the incident."

They declined to say how many American jets were launched.

The officials said two Soviet-built Libyan MIG-25s flew over international waters about noon Libyan time and approached a U.S. navy EA-38 electronic surveillance plane.

"They apparently just wanted to take a look at it. But we scrambled jets from the Coral Sea," one official said. He said there was no confrontation.

Britain to continue to seek peace

RIYADH (R) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said on Tuesday Britain would continue to seek ways for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr. Howe also reiterated at a news conference his view that the lack of a settlement was a "breeding ground for terrorism." In 1985, "Britain was ready to take risk in the cause of peace (in the Middle East) ... it will also continue actively to seek a helpful contribution," he said, apparently referring to his initial readiness to meet two officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in London last October. Mr. Howe added he had agreed in talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal on "the imperative need to ensure that those seeking a peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli dispute do not find their way blocked yet again... This is a recipe for despair and ... a breeding ground for terrorism."

Regent cautions Arabs against Zionist dangers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday cautioned the Arab World to be watchful and on its guard against Zionist dangers inherent in current settlement and expansionist programmes designed to impose Israeli domination on the Arab region.

Addressing the final session of a three-day conference on "Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations," the Regent said "practically, Israel wants to get peace and land in exchange for peace."

Participants of the conference ought to continue to hear non-Arab views about U.S.-Israeli relations and try to fully grasp the nature of this strategic relationship, Prince Hassan said. He said that Israel should be regarded as a strategic ally of the United States, serving as an advanced base totally relying on the United States financially, militarily and economically.

He also painted a clear picture of Israel as an entity in the Middle East, serving as a strategic project for the West and designed to achieve all its objectives through military power and realise superiority over the Arabs through U.S. support, in true expression of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance.

Prince Hassan also spoke in detail on Israel's aggression and the dangers of the Zionist movement in the region. He said Israel's present programmes aim at Judaizing the occupied Arab territories and evicting them from

(Continued on page 3)



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday addresses the final session of a three-day conference on "Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations." The Regent is flanked (on his right) by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher

Kana'an and Dr. John Ruedy of the Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University and (on the Regent's left) Kuwait News Agency President Berjis Berjis and Dr. Hanna Nasir, the exiled president of Birzeit University

Maksoud warns Egypt against accepting Israeli stand on Taba

By Lamis K. Andoni with agency dispatches

AMMAN — A senior Arab League official urged Egypt on Tuesday not to accept an Israeli agreement on the disputed Taba border strip describing the Israeli accord as "a dangerous development which aims at the revival of an almost dead Camp David accord."

Mr. Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's permanent representative at the United Nations, told participants in a conference on "Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations" here that the Egyptian people should not make "such a big concession to Israel" by accepting the Israeli government's agreement to settle the Taba dispute through binding arbitration in return for the normalisation of relations between Egypt and Israel.

"We hope that Egypt and the Egyptian people will not allow such a concession that aims at the revival of a treaty that is almost dead," Mr. Maksoud said. According to the 1979 Camp David agreement Israel agreed to withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula, which it occupied in 1967. But in 1982 when Israel handed back the last of the peninsula to Egypt, it refused to give back Taba, a one-square-kilometre enclave on the Red Sea.

But on Monday, the Israeli cab-



Clovis Maksoud

Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher

inet accepted Egypt's demand to settle the Taba dispute through binding arbitration, provided that Egypt return its ambassador to Israel and normalise relations between the two countries. Egypt recalled its ambassador in Israel in protest against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Mr. Maksoud called on Egypt not to return its ambassador to Israel and urged Cairo to continue to distance itself from Camp David and draw closer to the Arab World.

He said recent developments in Egypt, including popular anti-Israeli and anti-American demonstrations, indicated that Egypt was on its way to sever relations with Israel and return to the Arab fold.

"But an Egyptian acceptance of the Israeli agreement would constitute a serious setback," Mr. Maksoud warned.

"We need the return of Egypt to the Arab fold," he said. "It should

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PLO meeting discusses peace process

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) highest policy-making bodies discussed in a meeting held in Baghdad on Tuesday the question of accepting United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, the future of the peace process in the area and the expected visit by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to Amman. Jordanian and Palestinian officials said.

The session, which is being attended by the PLO Executive Committee and the Central Committee of Fateh, also discussed Moscow's reported readiness to work towards reconciling rival factions within the PLO, one PLO official said.

A PLO official in Amman, who did not want to be quoted by name, said that a PLO delegation left Baghdad on Tuesday for a tour of a number of socialist states in order to "widen the scope of our consultations." The delegation is

led by Farouq Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department, the official said.

Mr. Kaddoumi delivered a detailed report on his recent visit to Moscow to the Baghdad meeting which is chaired by Mr. Arafat, he added.

Commenting on the Baghdad meeting, a senior Jordanian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that "there has not been any development since Mr. Arafat's last visit to Jordan."

The official said Jordan asked the PLO in November "to convene the PLO Executive Committee and give the organisation's position on U.N. resolutions 242 and 338. The PLO, he said, "then issued a five-page ambiguous statement which did not contain any direct answer." The official said that Jordan was "still waiting for the PLO's answer."

Informal sources told the Jordan Times last week that PLO representative in Amman Brigadier Abdul Razzak Yahya had delivered a "letter" to Mr. Arafat

from Jordan regarding the PLO response to Jordan's request soon after the statement, but they did not disclose the contents of the letter.

Commenting on the PLO's recent diplomatic efforts to improve ties with the Soviet Union, the senior Jordanian official said the development can be a two-edged sword. "It could either further complicate the political game or it could strengthen the organisation and help us all to move with the peace process," the official said.

The AP adds from Baghdad: Mr. Arafat and his top aides held talks behind closed doors here on Tuesday on Moscow's reported readiness to mediate for reconciliation among rival PLO factions in return for "solid guarantees" that the PLO will not join any Middle East peace talks sponsored unilaterally by the United States, a ranking PLO official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the question of reuniting Palestinian

ranks was "thoroughly discussed" with Kremlin leaders during the recent visit to the Soviet Union by Mr. Kaddoumi.

"The Soviets are prepared to use their good offices with all the PLO groups to reunite the organisation provided that all the groups, separately and jointly, pledge that they will not take part in any talks on Middle East peace without the full participation of the Soviet Union," the official explained.

The Soviets, in return for such an effort, "want solid guarantees that there will be no Palestinian participation whatsoever in any Middle East peace talks in which the Soviets are not fully represented," the official said.

The meeting, which started here on Monday, grouped nine members of the PLO's 15-seat Executive Committee and members of Fateh's Central Council.

Four seats of the Executive Committee, however, remain

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Craxi emphasises need for Palestinian solution

CAIRO (AP) — Italian Premier Bettino Craxi called Tuesday for a concerted effort to track down those who harbour terrorists but at the same time to eliminate the conditions that spawn international terrorism.

Ending a whirlwind four-hour visit to Cairo, Mr. Craxi said he and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak agreed that terrorism is "a threat, a danger and an obstacle to the future of peace" in the Mediterranean area.

His visit came "at a time when there is tension and great fear in the Mediterranean countries," Mr. Craxi said in Italian.

"As two friendly countries and with other friendly countries, we intend to resist terror and whoever organises it. We will work to protect ourselves from this terror and to be able to define who protects them and who is behind them, and we insist on this."

Nevertheless, he said, the "reasons behind" terror also must be considered.

Brittan under fire for 'lying' over Westland issue

LONDON (R) — Trade Minister Leon Brittan was under pressure to quit on Tuesday accused of the deadliest of British political sins — telling a lie to the House of Commons.

It is considered an offence so heinous that historians could recall only one occasion this century when a politician had been caught in a lie and not driven from office.

Mr. Brittan was led into the trap on Monday by Michael Heseltine, who quit as defence minister last week in a bitter personal row with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Mr. Brittan himself over the fate of the Westland Helicopter Company.

Mr. Heseltine asked him about a letter to the government from the British Aerospace company. Mr. Brittan in effect denied the existence of such a letter three times.

Hours later he was forced to hurry back to parliament to apologise after his office confirmed

that he had known of the letter, delivered to Mrs. Thatcher earlier in the day.

Mrs. Thatcher, who had been sitting beside him when he made his original denials, had made no move to correct his statements.

Mr. Brittan told reporters on Tuesday he had not considered resigning.

Mrs. Thatcher defended Mr. Brittan in parliament on Tuesday, declaring: "I do not accept (he) misled this house."

Mrs. Thatcher meanwhile consulted close colleagues on how to handle potentially hostile questioning in the House of Commons on the government's involvement in the Westland crisis.

Shareholders of the ailing firm met in London and postponed until Friday a meeting at which they were to vote on a controversial rescue package led by the U.S. helicopter maker, Sikorsky.

Qadhafi warns of world war

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has warned that an attack by the United States on his country could trigger a third world war.

While warning of the dire consequences of a raid on Libya, Colonel Qadhafi, in a televised interview with ABC News, repeated his invitation to President Ronald Reagan to visit him in his tent and said he would go to the United States if officially invited.

"I think an attack from superpower against a small country like Libya would be very serious," the Libyan leader said from Tripoli via satellite. "It may be a start of third world war."

Col. Qadhafi, speaking in halting English with occasional help from an interpreter, vowed to shut down shipping lanes if the United States launched a raid.

"The Mediterranean would be the area of war... and at least we can destroy the (U.S.) Sixth Fleet," he said.

"In our home, our children, our families in Libya expect every day to be challenged and attacked by the American strategic force. Sixth Fleet or the bombers like the B-52," he said. "We are expecting this attack every day."

President Reagan last week imposed economic sanctions on Libya and froze its assets in U.S. banks in response to Libya's all-

the Palestinian and South African people.

In Washington, Pentagon sources told the AP that the U.S. aircraft carrier Saratoga and an accompanying battle group have been ordered back into the Mediterranean Sea in a move that will soon give the United States two large carrier groups in the region.

While confirming the new deployment orders, the sources continued to stress the navy had been given no orders involving an attack on Libya.

The Saratoga and five accompanying combat ships had been deployed since November to the Indian Ocean, but are now moving northwards through the Red Sea and were likely to go through the Suez Canal Tuesday evening, the sources said.

When the airport attacks occurred, the Saratoga was in the Indian Ocean and the carrier Coral Sea was in port.

The Coral Sea completed a holiday port call to Naples, Italy, on Jan. 3 and is now "on station in the central Mediterranean, drawing an unusual amount of Soviet aerial reconnaissance interest," one source told the AP on Monday.

"There's a hell of a lot of air activity right now from the Soviets on all of our units in the Mediterranean," the source said. "We're also seeing some surface activity in the vicinity of Sicily

(involving Soviet listening ships)."

One source added the Soviets currently have 26 naval vessels in the Mediterranean, but only five of them are combat ships.

At a meeting with reporters on Monday, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the Soviets are passing the naval intelligence they gather on to the Libyans, the New York Times reported on Tuesday.

In New Delhi, the Indian government, in an apparent but cautious warning to the United States, has said that no drastic action should be taken in the U.S.-Libyan crisis and said the bilateral furor should be resolved through dialogue.

India, head of the 101-nation Non-Aligned Movement, delivered its first and very careful official reaction to the U.S.-Libyan dispute after an urgent call by Arab League delegates seeking India's support for Libya.

"India hopes no precipitate steps will be taken as situations of this kind are best resolved through dialogue and not pressure," the United Nations of India (UNI) quoted Minister of State for Foreign Affairs K.R. Narayanan as saying in a statement.

Mr. Narayanan said India viewed the Libyan situation with "great concern because it raises tensions in the region," UNI said.

U.S. plays down Iran's Gulf ship interception

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Iran may have acted within traditional naval warfare rules in stopping and searching a U.S. merchant ship near the Gulf, a State Department spokesman acknowledged on Monday.

The statement by department spokesman Bernard Kalb appeared to represent an effort by the administration of President Ronald Reagan to avoid a flareup with the Tehran government.

Kalb said a final judgement on how to respond to the incident was being withheld until the U.S. ambassador to the United Arab Emirates completes his questioning of the captain of the ship, the President Taylor, and other facts are assessed.

"We are evaluating our options," Kalb said. He declined to elaborate.

A statement issued by Kalb said that a belligerent nation traditionally has "certain rights" under the rules of naval warfare, to find out whether neutral shipping is being used to provide contraband to its enemy.

"We are continuing to assess the facts of this particular incident, not all of which are yet known, to determine whether the stop-and-search was appropriate under the circumstances," Kalb said.

But the White House expressed deep concern over the Iranian action, saying there was a danger of misunderstandings and even violence in such situations.

It also called on Tehran to end its "intransigent refusal" to negotiate a solution to the five-year-old war with Iraq, which provided the broad background to the incident.

Presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said officials were assessing Sunday's incident — in which an armed Iranian navy party stopped and searched the 27,000-tonne President Taylor in international waters — to determine whether the stop-and-search was appropriate under the circumstances.

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Khamenei rejects Afghan peace force

ISLAMABAD (R) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei has called for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan but rejected suggestions that an international force could be sent in to guarantee a peace settlement.

Mr. Khamenei said at a banquet here Monday night that Iran wanted Afghanistan returned to its pre-war status as an independent Islamic country, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported.

Afghan refugees should be allowed to return with honour from Pakistan and Iran, he said.

Mr. Khamenei, the first Iranian leader to visit neighbouring Pakistan since Tehran's 1979 Islamic revolution, arrived on Monday for a three-day visit. He was holding formal talks with President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq on Tuesday.

Iran says it has accepted about 1.5 million refugees from Afghanistan. It actively supports Shi'ite rebels in the central Hazarajat region. But it blocks arms and aid to most other groups fighting in western Afghanistan.

Pakistan has about three million Afghan refugees.

Iran does not participate in United Nations-sponsored indirect talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan seeking a negotiated settlement to the six-year crisis.

The talks have settled disputes over the refugees' return and international guarantees for the agreement but have not yet solved the question of a Soviet troop withdrawal.

Some foreign officials, most notably former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, have suggested posting troops from Libya, Syria and Algeria in Afghanistan to keep the peace during and after any withdrawal of Moscow's estimated 115,000 soldiers.

But Mr. Khamenei, whose government will have to be involved in any settlement, insisted that foreign troops could not be replaced by other foreign troops.

Gen. Zia referred in his speech to Pakistani-Iranian cooperation in seeking an Afghan settlement but did not elaborate.

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U.S. urging Syria to expel Abu Nidal group

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States is urging the Syrian government to expel members of the Abu Nidal guerrilla group from Syria and the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, the state department said Monday.

The Reagan administration last week imposed economic sanctions on Libya for its alleged support of terrorism including harbouring the Abu Nidal group, said to have launched last month's attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said on Monday that Libya was seen as Abu Nidal's leading supporter but that Washington was seeking to convince

Syria that supporting such groups was not in its interests.

"The Syrian government is well aware of our concern over its support for terrorism, particularly the presence in Syria and in the Bekaa Valley of Abu Nidal facilities and personnel," he said.

"We are hoping to convince Syria to expel the Abu Nidal group entirely," he said.

Kalb noted that Syria, like Libya, is on a list of countries the United States says supports international terrorism but said Washington was not planning any additional steps against Damascus.

The other countries on the list are Iran, Cuba and South Yemen.

Congressmen oppose U.S. plan to sell arms to S. Arabia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Twelve House of Representatives members told President Ronald Reagan on Monday that they strongly oppose a new U.S. arms sale to Saudi Arabia on grounds it would fuel the regional arms race and erode Israel's military superiority.

In a letter, drafted by Republican Representative Mel Levine of California, the representatives said they are disturbed at reports the Reagan administration intends to put forward a \$1 billion arms package for Saudi Arabia including air-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft missiles, combat helicopters, anti-ship missiles and electronic countermeasure systems for F-5 and F-15 jet fighters.

They said such a sale would not meet the criteria adopted by Congress in 1981 that arms sales in the Middle East contribute to regional stability and security, enhance prospects for peace, and that Saudi Arabia become a key player in the peace process.

"They have failed to condemn the latest acts of terrorism by radical Middle East elements and continue to support leaders of those elements, including Colonel Muammar Qadhafi," the house members said of the Saudis.

They told Mr. Reagan: "We will vigorously oppose this Saudi arms sale package and we urge you not to submit it to Congress."

The protest against the proposed sales was started last week.

Evren to meet Arafat in Tunis

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren is to meet Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat during a visit to Tunis beginning on Thursday, a Turkish newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The daily Gunes said details of the meeting were being kept secret for security reasons. Gen. Evren is making a state visit to Tunisia.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Yalim Erarp told Reuters he could not confirm or deny the report.

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Coroner demonstrates Khater's 'suicide'

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian medical examiner looped a piece of cloth around his neck on Monday to demonstrate to reporters how policeman Suleiman Khater probably hanged himself.

Mohamed Al Iraqy's demonstration came in a news conference called in an effort to put to rest speculation voiced by some Arab media that Egyptian or Israeli security men killed Khater, who was serving a life sentence for killing seven Israelis.

Dr. Iraqy's boss Dr. Ibrahim Mohammad Seleem, chief medical-legal officer in the Justice Ministry, released photos that he said showed Khater's corpse on the floor of his prison hospital room shortly after he was found last Tuesday. The piece of bed cover Dr. Iraqy used in his demonstration was looped around Khater's neck and tied to a bar of his window, the government says.

"We challenge any medical examiner in the world to come to a different conclusion than ours," said Dr. Seleem, chief pathologist at Khater's autopsy.

In another part of Cairo on Monday, a judge heard the government's appeal of another court's order that Khater's body be exhumed for a second autopsy by outside doctors at his family's request.

The marathon hearing continued into the night, then was adjourned until Jan. 18.

Abdul Halim Ramadan, a lawyer for Khater's family, charged that by appealing the decision the government was playing for time until the body would be too decomposed for examination.

Dr. Seleem said the time for that to happen depends on the type of burial. "It might take about a week in his case," he said. Khater was buried last Wednesday.

In his demonstration, Dr. Iraqy noted that Khater had a semi-circular scar on the upper portion of his neck, which some critics of the autopsy report have charged resulted from strangulation by another person.

On the contrary, Dr. Iraqy and Dr. Seleem said, precisely such a scar would have resulted from the manner in which Khater's body

was found hanging.

"The ABCs of forensic medicine say this scar shows he was not strangled (by somebody else), Dr. Seleem said. "Otherwise it would have given a whole ring and would have been at a lower point on the neck."

As for somebody else attaching the cloth and hanging Khater, Dr. Seleem said that "would be very difficult... unless he was given a sedative or was first electrocuted."

In the final autopsy report released on Sunday, Dr. Seleem reported that tests on samples taken from Khater's intestinal tract showed it contained no tranquilisers or drugs. In addition, he said on Monday, "if he were electrocuted, his blood would have coagulated. This was not the case."

The body showed no signs of resistance and no human cells that would indicate physical contact with another person. "Khater should have been clinically dead five seconds after he hanged himself," he said.

PLO discusses peace process

(Continued from page 1)

empty because Mr. Arafat's opponents in the PLO have failed to name their representatives. Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a member of the committee, was assassinated in December 1984 and his seat remains empty.

Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas), leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), accused by the U.S. and Italy of masterminding last October's hijacking of the Achille Lauro Italian cruise ship, did not take part in the discussions, the official said. He refused to disclose Abu Abbas' whereabouts.

Mr. Arafat's opponents have allied their forces in the Syrian-backed Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF).

The PNSF groups the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) of Dr. George Habash, Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-General Command, the Sa'ia faction of Isam' Al Qadi, the Popular Struggle Front (PSF) of Dr. Samir Ghosheh, a faction of the PLF headed by Talaat Yaquob, and

Saeed Mousa's Fatah which is the faction that broke away from Mr. Arafat's mainline group.

The PLO currently comprises its Fatah loyalists, the Arab Liberation Front (ALF) of Abdul Rahim Ahmad and the Abu Abbas wing of the PLF.

Nayer Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) has neither joined the PNSF nor named its representative to the PLO's Executive Committee.

The official stressed that Moscow has "direct influence on either the opposition or the Arab states controlling them," and this would enable the Soviet Union to launch an effort aimed at reconciling the PLO factions which split in 1983

Joint industrial company meets in Damascus

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The Jordan-Syrian Industries Company opened a meeting in Damascus Tuesday to review a programme for the company's activities and financial spending in 1986. The meetings will also discuss industrial projects to be launched and an appraisal of the 1984 budget will be made. The general assembly meeting is being chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajab Muasher and his Syrian counterpart Ali Tarabouisi.

Dr. Muasher, who arrived in Damascus on Monday evening, is accompanied by a delegation comprising Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Al Saqqaf in his capacity as chairman of joint company's board of directors and Jordanian board members. The meetings are expected to last several days.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Khabb confers with FANA chairman

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khabb Tuesday conferred with Mr. Barjas Al Barjas, director general of the Kuwait News Agency and chairman of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA). They reviewed Jordanian-Kuwaiti cooperation in information-related affairs and cooperation between the national news agencies of Jordan and Kuwait. Mr. Al Barjas spoke about FANA's activities and programmes to relay Arab news to the five continents. The meeting was attended by Mr. Jawad Marsafa, director general of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

WHO regional representative arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi, regional representative of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and coordinator of the organisation's activities and programmes in Jordan and Syria, arrived in Amman Tuesday on a 10-day visit to Jordan. He is expected to hold talks with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and other officials from the Health Ministry on cooperation in training courses, research programmes and sending staff on scholarships and courses abroad. Dr. Abdul Hadi was met upon arrival by Dr. Suleiman Qubain, the director of health welfare of the Ministry, and a number of other officials.

Acting speaker receives council heads

AMMAN (J.T.) — Acting Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Ismail Hijazi Tuesday received in his office heads of municipal and village councils in the southern Jordan Valley region and heard their requests for improving health conditions in their regions. Mr. Hijazi said at the meeting that the government has made plans for raising the standard of health services in the region within the coming five-year development plan. Mr. Hijazi is acting for speaker Akel Al Fayez who is currently spending a holiday abroad.

A more scenic route to Syria

RAMATHA (Petra) — Ramtha Municipality has embarked on a project to plant trees along the Amman-Damascus road between the city and the border in the north, according to Ibrahim Al Azabneh, acting mayor of Ramtha. He said that a total of 500 olive trees and a large number of forest trees will be planted along both sides of the road.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud (second left) and Royal Scientific Society President Fakhreddin Daghestani (left) Tuesday sign an agreement to conduct a national study on water pollution (Petra photo)

Ministry, RSS to study water pollution

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment is to launch a comprehensive national study on water pollution in the coming month to be conducted in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), under an agreement signed in Amman Tuesday. The study will cover most parts of the Kingdom and will be spread over five years, according to the ministry's under secretary Awad Al Tal.

The agreement provides for testing at least 786 samples of water from 39 wastewater treatment plants located near industrial areas, 59 samples from drinking

water springs and 17 samples from sewerage plants. Mr. Tal explained. The project, he continued, also provides for testing and assessing six water basins and three mineral springs in addition to monitoring and testing water samples taken from a number of car-wash stations.

All areas covered by municipal and village council services in the Kingdom, except for the Aqaba region, will be covered by the project which is expected to cost JD 47,000, Mr. Tal added.

The RSS and the ministry will carry out joint tests on water samples and will submit immediate

reports on any contamination to the concerned authorities in order to avoid risks and prevent the spread of pollution. Mr. Tal pointed out.

He said the whole project is designed to maintain control over all types of drinking and wastewater as well as surface and underground water resources with special attention to the chemical, physical and biological nature of water in Jordan.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud and RSS President Fakhreddin Al Daghestani.

Ministry offers opportunities to engineers

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawameh has decided to give 50 newly-graduated engineers the chance of a six month training period with his ministry's departments.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, he said that the Ministry of Public Works is trying its best to stem unemployment among engineers by employing them in a number of ministry projects and by appointing newly graduated engineers to work for municipalities in the occupied West Bank.

The estimated number of Jordanian engineers graduating every year is 3,000 and this is clearly more than the local market can absorb since jobs are limited.

He said that the Ministry of Public Works, in coordination with the Jordanian Engineers Association and local authorities, is striving to find work for 300 engineers annually. Most of the new engineers are being given training with senior engineers on a number of projects, the minister added.

Captagon smugglers receive stiff sentences, heavy fines

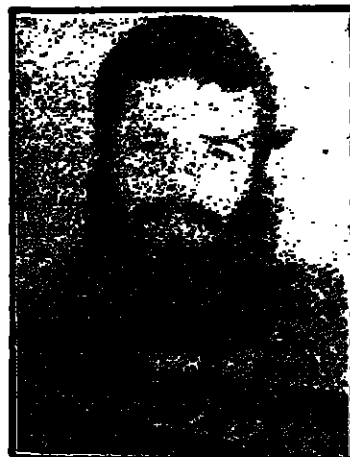
AMMAN (J.T.) — Two Syrians and a Saudi Arabian national have received stiff prison sentences and fines for importing banned Captagon tablets for the purpose of trading, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

The news agency reported that Ali Dheeb Mohammad Khalaf from Syria was sentenced by the military court to eight years in prison with hard labour and fined JD 3,000 whilst Oqsem Faisal Abbarah from Syria and his Saudi accomplice Mohammad Ridaian were each sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labour and fined JD 5,000.

Petra did not say when the men were arrested but reported that a vehicle with a Saudi Arabian licence plate and used for smuggling the drugs was confiscated by the authorities.

Convict recaptured

Meanwhile, a report in Tuesday's issue of Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper said that Amman police have recaptured Ali Mustafa Ghuneim, an escaped convict.



Recaptured: Ali Mustafa Ghuneim

after ambushing him at Nuzha district in Amman. Ali Ghuneim had earlier committed several armed robberies and had been jailed for a number of years, according to the report.

The convict was re-captured after his photograph appeared in the local press which enabled members of the public to recognise the man and inform the police, the report said.

Regent warns Arabs of Zionist dangers

(Continued from page 1)

their indigenous population before finally imposing total domination on Arab natural resources. The Regent said that these programmes endanger the stability in the Middle East region and help to maintain the no-war-no-peace situation characterised by constant tension.

The U.S.-Israeli relationship began to take roots under former U.S. President Harry Truman but continued to grow until today, Prince Hassan said. This relationship has become evident through continued American attempts to present America's protection for the Zionist entity, sometimes under the pretext of containing Arab-Israeli tension and sometimes under the pretext of

giving protection to the rights of Jews against oppression, he added.

Prince Hassan said this policy has been adopted in a bid to win sympathy from the West for the Jewish people's cultural and religious heritage.

Prince Hassan said Arab history should be written by Arab authors with Arab concepts. "When we speak of calling Orientalists known for their pro-Israeli tendencies to conduct a study on the Arab-Israeli dispute we do so in order to give them the chance to see for themselves and write about the present situation and to understand the Arab political struggle in this period, and to grasp the ordeal and the sufferings of the Palestinian people in their land."

Prince Hassan said.

He said: "We should also find a way of presenting objective Arab history through Arab study centres set up by Arab universities to correct the wrong concepts of people about developments of the Palestine problem and the tragedy of the Palestinian people."

Prince Hassan paid tribute to the Centre for Hebraic Studies at Yarmouk University and the efforts exerted by the organisers of the conference. He suggested that the centre expand its studies and its research programmes to include Israel's expansionist plans and its Mediterranean-Red Sea canal project and conditions of the Arab people under Israeli rule and make specialised studies on such issues.

Battles rage in Aden after coup bid

(Continued from page 1)

Small-arms and artillery fire were heard, a Foreign Office spokesman reported.

Sporadic shooting was reported in the vicinity of the British embassy, but none of the 50-60 British in South Yemen was reported injured.

The Foreign Office said it had no indication of exactly who the belligerents were or what the political situation was Tuesday morning.

Sources quoted by the A.P. said that the Aden suburbs of Tawahi, Khormaksar and McAlla were cordoned off by government forces and that street fighting was heaviest in the Mansoura suburb.

The clatter of rifle bullets and the thud of distant blasts have been heard by British embassy personnel in Aden, a British diplomat in Sana'a, North Yemen, told the A.P. in a telephone interview.

Shipping sources in Tokyo, citing telexes from vessels in Aden, said the Japanese-operated Sanko Daffodil was hit in Monday's fighting and two crewmen were slightly hurt.

The South Yemeni navy was preventing the 14,147-tonne cargo ship leaving port, and a gun-

boat was using it as cover to fire back at opposing forces along the shoreline, they said.

South Yemeni Prime Minister Haidar Abudaker Al Attas, at the end of an official trip to India, called off a planned visit to China and stayed in New Delhi to await news from Aden.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei meanwhile dropped plans to go on to Aden after an official visit to Pakistan.

Maksoud warns Egypt

(Continued from page 1)

assume its leading nationalist role and consolidate the Arab position in the face of Israeli aggression."

Egypt on Tuesday hailed as a positive step Israel's decision to settle the Taba dispute by arbitration and hinted a summit between leaders of the two countries could take place in due course.

Foreign minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters after meeting President Hosni Mubarak: "We consider Israel's position on this a positive step which we appreciate."

Mr. Abdul Meguid praised Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who has reportedly fought hard with cabinet right-wingers to win agreement for the plan, for what he described as his "constructive attitude."

Mr. Abdul Meguid did not rule out a summit meeting between Peres and Mr. Mubarak but said:

U.S.-Israeli relations symposium concludes

Researchers discuss full implications of American-Israeli ties on the occupied territories, Arab policies and Mideast situation

By Rana Sabbagh
and Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh said Tuesday that it is high time for Arabs to take Israel seriously and to realise that Israel is a geopolitical extension of the United States.

Mr. Abu Odeh, addressing the closing session of a three-day symposium on Israel and American-Israeli relations, said that Israel's survival is contingent on increasing U.S. financial and military assistance.

"The Arabs have not yet adopted a unified or coherent stand with defined targets and although we agree on the fact that Israel is a common adversary, there is still no consensus on means and ways of confronting this challenge," said Mr. Abu Odeh, a key politician and expert on Palestinian-Israeli issues.

The symposium, attended by eminent Arab researchers on Middle East policies and the Israeli ideology, ended its meetings with a recommendation to tabulate the research presented in a book to be published in due course as a reference document.

Another recommendation by the symposium, which was organised by the Centre for Hebraic Studies at Yarmouk University, said all working papers would be studied to identify areas of importance on which vital decisions could be taken.

In his address during Tuesday's session, Mr. Abu Odeh noted that the symposium's title was accurate and straight to the point, but he said such a seminar should have taken place decades ago as it was imperative for the Arab World to face Israel eye to eye accepting it as an entity openly supported by a superpower.

However, Mr. Abu Odeh said the assembly's agenda was limited to pure analysis of American-Israeli relations and the next stage of relevant seminars should focus on research and working papers following which a thesis and definite decisions could be adopted.

Referring to the research papers presented to the symposium, Mr. Abu Odeh said that they should be distributed to decision makers in the Arab World.

During Tuesday's evening session, researchers presented three working papers on U.S.-Israeli relations in the coming decade. Arabs in the U.S. media and the Jewish lobby in the U.S. Dr. Ibrahim Ibrahim, Dr. Edmond Ghareeb and Dr. Souad Dajani reported the defamatory and distorted stereotyped image of the Arabs in the U.S. media. A member of the audience contended that such defamation is also directed at Arabs by the British and Canadian mass media.

Dr. Dajani, who is researcher at Yarmouk University, said that in the U.S., the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is an excellent example of the Israeli distortion of the Arab image. Everything done by the Arabs is regarded as related to extremism or fundamentalism,

whereas Jewish propaganda is considered as pro-American conducted by modern intellectuals, the paper said.

On the subject of Israeli democracy, Dr. Ghareeb contended that there will never be real democracy in a colonialist, expansionist entity. "It is more like democracy amongst thieves," said the researcher.

Discussing the U.S. media, Dr. Ghareeb said a new breed of American reporters have taken and still are taking sides regarding the Middle East as they describe Israel as a pro-American, reliable ally and an advanced nation situated in a chaotic and brutal part of the world — the Arab World. Such reporters, as seen in many cases, ignore issues related to the conflict, especially regarding the Palestinian dimension, he added.

Occupied territories, Israeli settlements

In Tuesday's second panel discussion on the occupied territories, chaired by Berjis Berjis, president of the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), participants discussed the socio-economic conditions in the West Bank, the rapid growth and implications of Israel's settlement policy and Israel's policy towards the occupied territories since 1967.

Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an, in his paper on "Problems of economic development in the 1967 Occupied Territories," called for a quick Arab solution to the issue of increasing emigration of West Bank inhabitants and stressed the need to rebuild the territories' civic institutions in order to strengthen the steadfastness of the Arab people living under Israeli occupation. These two basic needs require immediate attention and are inter-related, Dr. Kana'an stressed.

There are presently 700,000 Palestinians living in the 1967 occupied territories, but their socio-economic development has been growing slowly thus reducing the Palestinians' power and influence for change, Dr. Kana'an said. There is also a very strong relation between the territories macro-infrastructure and the fact that it has become a captive market for Israel's economy, the minister said, adding that immediate solutions should be applied to address these two problems.

"There is an imbalance in the territories' educational and vocational training," Dr. Kana'an said, and he called for upgrading the academic status of teachers, increasing the numbers of vocational training schools and giving priority to increasing the number of polytechnic colleges in the occupied West Bank.

The second paper on "Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank" was prepared by Birzeit University professor Kamal Abdul Fattah and presented by the university's deported president Hanna Nasser. Dr. Abdul Fattah was not allowed to cross the bridge by the Israeli authorities and Dr. Nasser stood in to present the paper.

The paper stressed that Israel's settlement policy is an issue of great concern due to the fact that the occupation authorities want to hold on to Palestinian land and because the U.S. does not consider settlements as "a basic stumbling block in the Middle East peace process," although the increasing number of settlements are an alarming indicator of Israel's intentions in the Middle East.

According to Dr. Nasser, liberation from the Israeli occupation and socio-economic development in the occupied lands are two major issues which face the Palestinians living under occupation.

Dr. John Reudy, professor of Middle East History at the Washington-based Georgetown University, submitted his paper on the impact of the Israeli domestic political process on West Bank policy. The paper indicated that the U.S. administration holds the view that "it is the political fragility of the present Israeli national unity government which inhibits it from taking significant steps towards accommodation in the West Bank and Gaza."

Dr. Reudy traced the history of the positions taken by Israeli political factions since 1967 towards the occupied territories and concluded that the immobilisation of the Peres government is simply a newer expression of the same political situation which has continually precluded taking hard decisions year after year. In the long run, Dr. Reudy said, Israeli policy towards the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and towards ultimate resolution of the conflict with the Palestinians and other Arabs has always been determined by domestic factors to a far greater extent than by external ones.

"Any solution to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip demonstrates the solution to no solution since any attempt to settle the issue causes havoc to the Israeli government," said Dr. Reudy.

Before concluding the second panel Mr. Berjis called on participants to review the structure of Arab states. "We have had a lot of diagnoses on Israel's socio-economic and political structures. It is high time that we should look at Arab states, and try to understand ourselves," he said. "Democracy and freedom are two elements absent from Arab states and any attempts towards Arab progress will never be achieved if freedom and democracy are dead in our states," he continued. "It is against logic that governments are inspectors of their people. Rather, the masses should control and supervise the government," Mr. Berjis, an outspoken Arab intellectual, contended.

Starting 1986 on lively note

By Jean Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The very first classical concert of 1986 is organised by the British Council in Amman and will introduce a famous piano duo, Richard Markham and David Nettle, who will be performing at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) main theatre on Wednesday Jan. 15 at 8:00 p.m. and a matinee for young people and schools is scheduled for Thursday Jan. 16 at 11:00 a.m. also at the RCC.

Although they sometimes play duets on two pianos, Markham and Nettle have selected a programme for one piano and four hands which should catch the audience's interest with its liveliness and joyful spirit. After a recital in London in 1985, the Daily Telegraph said: "Jolie de vivre was very much in the air at the Queen Elizabeth Hall... Markham and Nettle brought remarkably tight coordination and response to the music, and an irresistible sense of fun."

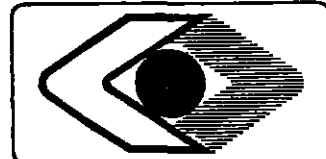
March by Eric Coates.

The matinee recital on Thursday will be presented in an informal style which should be quite attractive to the young for whom it has been organised. The duo will play some of the pieces selected for Wednesday as well as other compositions meant to illustrate the "four hands at one piano" technique.

Though rather young, Markham and Nettle already have an impressive record which includes appearances in several countries, radio and television performances, recording for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and a special programme on a world cruise aboard the Queen Elizabeth II liner.

MUSIC PREVIEW

Performing together since 1978, Richard Markham and David Nettle gave a concert in Jordan in December 1983. They prefer to play forms of music which reach the audience emotionally rather than intellectually. In an interview with the Jordan Times, they admitted that "some modern compositions can be quite interesting, but a performance should be more than just interesting, it must be enjoyable." Judging by past performances and by the concert programme, both recitals promise to be both interesting and enjoyable and should fill the seats of the RCC theatre.



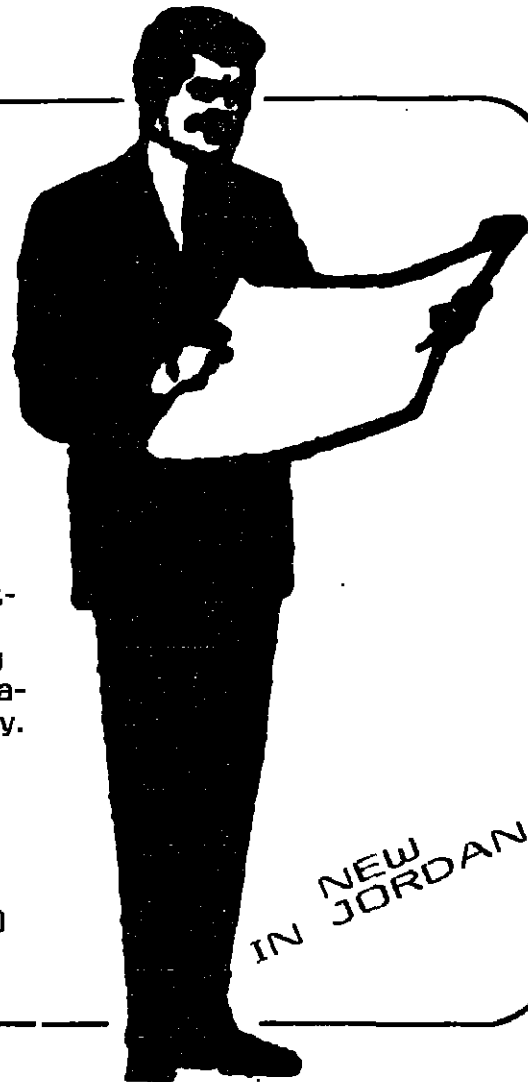
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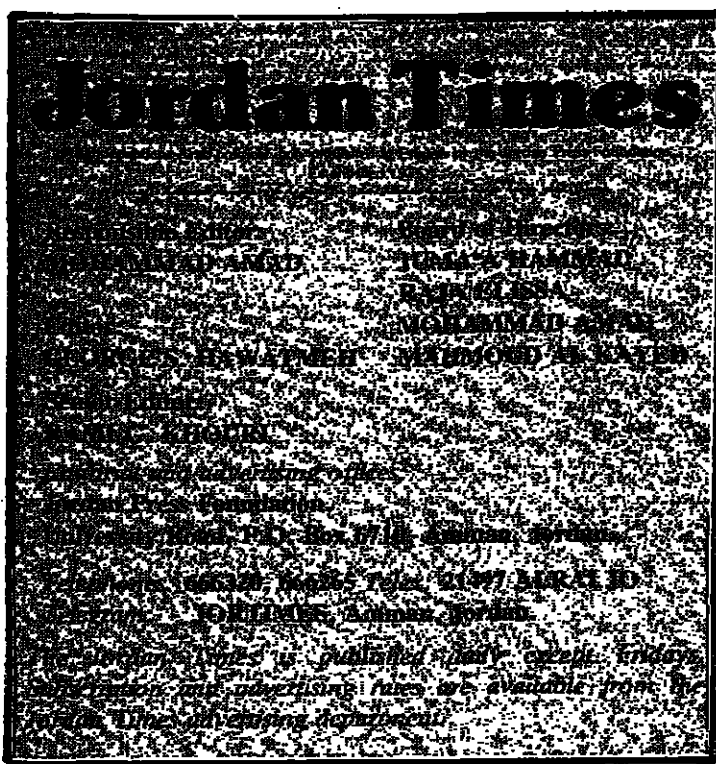
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Credibility starts at home

THE seminar on "Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations" that was held in Amman over the past three days has been a very important and useful event for students of the Palestinian problem and the history of the Middle East generally. The wide knowledge and experience of the participants, the papers that were presented, the topics that were raised and the discussions of the seminar should all be valuable contributions to the Arab mind which is dealing with the greatest challenge in modern Arab history — that of Israel and Zionism. It is through serious study and deep understanding of the way the enemy works, of his organisation and philosophy, of his designs and aims, that we can stand up to the challenge and mobilise to attain our goals. Short of amassing every bit of Arab strength and total agreement to act and speak with one voice, it is the only way really — particularly at this point in time when the best the Arab World can do is to stem the challenge and limit its harm.

Any and every thing can be said about Israel today and about its relations with the U.S. and the forces at play in this region. And, for that, every opinion must be listened to and every detail studied. The truth, however, is that we in the Arab World have not yet come to grips with our own internal problems. The essential questions of true national development, strategic interests, democracy and individual rights, and political strategy, among many others, are largely unanswered. There are still wide gaps between what we are and what we want to be, and it is through these gaps that we allow our enemies to infiltrate and thrive on our weaknesses.

Studies and researches and discussions as we read about and heard at Yarmouk University over the past three days can play a major role in opening our eyes not only to what the enemy and his backers think and say and do, but also to what we ourselves are. Knowledge about ourselves and learning about the others are not mutually exclusive; in fact they are processes that go hand in hand together.

Credibility starts at home, as they say, and we hope that whatever lessons we have learned from our thinkers and researchers over the years will be translated into solid steps and programmes of action by our governments and policymakers throughout the Arab World.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Facing Israeli threats

THE Israeli authorities announced that the speaker of the Israeli parliament and the mayor of the occupied Arab-city of Jerusalem were making visits to Al Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem on what they said was an inspection tour. The visits come in the wake of clashes between the local Arab residents and the Israeli members of Parliament who tried to storm the shrine last Wednesday. The new visits can be interpreted as a further provocation for the Arabs and the Muslims in the holy city and an attempt for enforcing a tradition by which the Israelis will have the right at any time in the future to visit the holy shrine. The visits form the first step towards bolstering the Jewish presence at Al Haram Al Sharif, thus paving the way for a plot aimed at demolishing it for the rebuilding of the Jewish temple. The encroachment on the rights of the Muslims in their holy places is a total disregard to the Islamic religion on the part of the Jews and the Israeli leaders, and it is a defiance to the presence of Arab people in their homeland. What is required from the Arabs and Muslims now is speedy action that can ensure the rebuilding of Arab forces to liberate the holy places from occupation. Islamic nations in general should take part in a unified action to help the Arabs regain control of their holy places and liberate the land from Zionist occupation.

Al Dustour: Fighting in Beirut

AS serious efforts are being exerted by Lebanese leaders and Syrian officials to bring an end to the civil war in Lebanon, we witness a new flare up of fighting between warring groups in east Beirut that is causing further bloodshed and creating more obstacles in the path of a peaceful solution and national reconciliation. The human and material losses that result from this new outbreak of fighting is bound to prevent the various factions from reaching a speedy end to the civil war and is bound also to complicate the social, political and economic situation in the country. It is really regrettable to see the Lebanese pursuing their armed conflict at a time when the central Beirut government is trying to enlist support from the world community at the United Nations Security Council against repeated Israeli attacks in the south. The new outbreak of fighting in Beirut does not only weaken the internal front in the face of Israeli aggression but tends also to dissipate world support for the Lebanese cause at international forums.

Sawt Al Shaab: Adhering to the accord

WE believe that the Damascus accord represents a national solution to the problem of Lebanon and a means for ending the bloodshed and tragedies in that country. The Lebanese president ought to adhere to the accord which was signed by the leaders of the warring factions and support the Syrian measures designed to bring about national reconciliation. Had Mr. Gemayel supported the accord, no fresh fighting in his country would have broken out, and no new obstacles would have risen in the path of a final peace. Supporting the Damascus accord means keeping Lebanon close to its Arab nation, and by doing so, the Lebanese president would have proved to be in control of the situation. The cancellation of the May agreement with Israel was a brave step taken by Mr. Gemayel and he will do good to put his weight behind the Damascus accord because this decision will put an end to internal fighting among the Maronites of Lebanon and start a genuine march towards a permanent peace with the other groups. Our Middle East region serves as an arena for the imperialist and Zionist powers who try to keep the Arabs divided and weak, but the only reply to these plots is unification of Arab forces and a confrontation of the plots in concerted ranks that can ensure real stability not only for Lebanon but for all states in the region.

Michel Rocard, the most popular politician in France today: 'I am in basic agreement with French policy on the Middle East' 'It is time for new political culture and for self-management Socialism'

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After swimming against the current and resisting the high tides of French politics for almost four decades Michel Rocard, the prominent Socialist theoretician and politician, is almost there. Rocard has succeeded in reaching the French people and his ideas of self-management have steadily gained more ground within his own party and among other sectors of his compatriots.

Opinion polls conducted by leading French newspapers and magazines have repeatedly shown that Mr. Rocard is the most popular politician in France. In practical terms this implies that Mr. Rocard stands the best chance to defeat the right-wing candidate in the coming presidential elections. Mr. Rocard, however, would need the endorsement of his Socialist Party to ensure his candidacy for presidency.

Mr. Rocard had already nominated himself for the presidential elections and had launched a campaign for support inside and outside the Socialist Party.

As part of his preparations for the presidential race, Mr. Rocard made his first visit to Jordan last week upon the invitation of his Majesty King Hussein to collect more information on the recent developments in the Middle East.

'It could not be possible for France to recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people unless the organisation accepts United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338'

In an interview with the Jordan Times Mr. Rocard said that in principle he supports the present French policy in the Middle East "which aims at striking an equilibrium between France' friendship with the Arab World and support of the national rights of the Palestinian people as well as the French support to Israel's right to exist."

He said that although France maintains contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "it could not be possible for France to recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people unless the organisation accepts United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338."

In his opinion, France could and would play a role in supporting efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian question only if "it was asked to do so by the parties involved."

"I think that conditions for peace in the area should be worked out and enforced by the parties directly concerned in the conflict and not by international powers," he said. "The role of international powers should be confined to helping and supporting the parties involved to reach their goals and not to outline and enforce the conditions for peace," he summarised his views on the Middle East. He said he preferred to elaborate on his position "back home and when the time is right."

"I do not like irresponsible politicians," he said.

As a potential candidate for

presidency, however, the Middle East does not constitute the basis of his election campaign which is primarily based on local, national and theoretical questions which focus on the option of Socialism in France and the world.

Mr. Rocard's bid for presidency is the continuation, but could be the crowning, of 37 years of relentless struggle to push and promote his views on "self-management socialism." His political involvement dates back to 1949 when he joined the Socialist Party's student wing and later served as its national secretary.

Right from the beginning young Rocard maintained an independent political identity and was far from being a conformist even to his own party line. "I was opposed to the Algerian war, the tripartite (French-British-Israeli) landing in the Suez Canal in 1956 and later to the Socialist leader Guy Mollet's support of the Fifth Republic," he said. He admitted, however, that his opposition to the de Gaulle government might not have been in its place. "We thought then that Mr. Mollet was too quick in supporting the de Gaulle government which we thought to be authoritarian but which proved not to be," he explained.

But, at that time, those differences were real and serious and Mr. Rocard eventually left the Socialist Party in 1958 and participated in the formation of the Unified Socialist Party (PSU).

"The PSU was a coalition of three leftist groups including former members of the Socialist and Communist parties and small, largely Catholic, clubs with leftist views," he said. In Mr. Rocard's view right from the beginning the PSU was able to effect an important change in French politics. "Until then the general conception in France was that the left was anti-Catholic but the formation of the PSU helped in changing this concept and in creating a new atmosphere for incorporating committed Catholics in the left," he explained.

In 1965 Mr. Rocard became a member of the PSU's national political bureau and two years later was elected the party's national secretary.

It was then that Mr. Rocard had the chance to launch and promote his own ideas of Socialism. "I thought it was time for a renewal of left wing thinking," he said.

Mr. Rocard's political programme had three objectives: — Decentralisation of power in France by giving more say to the local authorities;

— A change in the monetary and economic methods of achieving Socialism "since the classical leftist theory of total nationalisation and public ownership of the means of production was not working when and where it was applied";

— A new system of adequate cooperation between the North and the South.

But before the young party was able to launch its programme it soon found itself assuming a leading role in the "explosion of May 1968."

Mr. Rocard talks very affectionately about the protests that had swept France in 1968 and which led to strikes and demonstrations which were first started by students and later joined by workers. "It was an anti-bureaucratic explosion he said. "It was not an expression of class struggle. That was evident in the



Mr. Michel Rocard

workers demands, which did not include salary raises but which detested control and bureaucracy."

As a leader of the biggest organisation in "the anti-bureaucratic movement" Mr. Rocard found himself at odds with the government, the right and even with the French Communist Party. "We had very bad relations with the Communist Party," he recalled. He accused the Communist Party of trying to halt the popular protest movement which he also viewed to have been "a movement against the Communist Party's bureaucracy."

But the upsurge against bureaucracy was not translated in the results of the 1969 elections when the right won and George Pompidou became the new President. Mr. Rocard himself ran for the presidency in 1969 and won 800,000 votes.

Looking at it now he said that people turned to the right "because they were afraid," particularly after the 1968 explosion.

In October 1969, however, Mr. Rocard was elected deputy on the PSU ticket from the Yvelines and represented this department in the National Assembly until 1973.

At the same time new "alarmist" leftist expressions were emerging within the PSU and thus Mr. Rocard found himself engaged in internal conflicts. "Groups of Maoists and Trotskyites were trying to take over," he said. "I have never been an ultra leftist and I resisted those attempts but the conflicts themselves paralysed the party."

While the PSU was suffering from internal conflicts and rifts the Socialist Party was regaining its strength and power and in 1971 it reunified its ranks. In 1974 Mr. Rocard campaigned for the Socialist leader Francois Mitterrand in the presidential elections and soon afterwards rejoined the mainstream Socialist Party. He also became a staunch supporter of the Mitterrand-initiated alliance between the Socialists and the Communists despite his misgivings about the latter. Mr. Rocard's support of the "alliance of the

left" did not reflect any change in his attitude towards the Communist Party but as he explained the alliance was necessary to strengthen the Socialist Party.

Before the alliance of the left was formed the conflict between the left and the right was between the Communist Party, which was the major representative of the left, and the conservatives, but the alliance provided the Socialists the chance to enter the conflict and gave the people, who supported the left, a new party to choose," he said.

The alliance with the Communist Party, in Mr. Rocard's view, had paid off for the Socialists while at the same time had weakened the Communists. "As a result the Communist share from the electoral vote dropped from 21 per cent in 1975 to 10-12 per cent in 1980," he noted.

In 1975 he became national secretary of the Socialists responsible for public affairs. Two years later he was elected Mayor of Conflans-Sainte-Honorine, a new town (population 29,000) on the outskirts of Paris and in 1978 he was chosen to the Ile-de-France regional council. In the same year he was re-elected to the national assembly, this time he campaigned as a Socialist and served until 1981.

'Local authorities and factory and firm managers should enjoy more autonomy and practice self-management since they know and understand their needs and capabilities better than the central planners who usually set the goals in a classical Socialist society'

Mr. Rocard continued to campaign actively within the Socialist Party for self-management and more autonomy for local governments and by 1977, the year when the alliance with the Communist broke up, he was leading a current, within the party. But in

1979 he found himself enjoying the support of a minority when he openly criticised the party's programme for raising false and high expectations among the people. "I told the party that we were making the people too much promises that we may not be able to fulfil."

The fact that his criticism was affecting his position within the party did not change Mr. Rocard's stand or determination. "I was determined to say the truth even if it meant more difficulties for me within the party," he said. But if Mr. Rocard's views put him in a minority position within his party the effect on the French public outside the party was tremendous.

In 1980 opinion polls reflected his growing popularity among the French people and showed that he had the best chance to defeat the incumbent president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and consequently he proposed his candidacy to the Socialist Party. But the party chose Mr. Mitterrand as its candidate and Mr. Rocard had to withdraw from the elections in loyalty to his party.

Meanwhile he pursued his campaign for self-management Socialism within and outside the party. In his view successful Socialism would take into consideration the rules of the market and should not be subject to rigid central planning. "For me socialism is a claim for social justice, it is a society which helps the poor."

What Mr. Rocard is advocating has become to be known as "non-state Socialism" since he stresses that the state should not be the main and the only agent through which Socialism is applied. "The Communists and other Socialists made the state the agent for the application of Socialism and the results were huge bureaucracies, centralisation of power and inefficiency," he explained.

Therefore, local authorities and factory and firm managers should enjoy more autonomy and practise self-management since they know and understand their needs and capabilities better than the central planners who usually set the goals in a classical Socialist society," he noted.

He noted that there was confusion in defining Socialism and that many countries which have a large public sector and central planning call themselves Socialists. "There should be a new and a clear definition of socialism," he affirmed.

In a very well known debate inside the party in Nantes in 1977, Mr. Rocard was quoted as saying that there were two political cultures within the left. The first, he argued then, was the prevailing trend and which he described to be "authoritarian, centralised and Jacobin" in practice and orientation. He argued that prevailing Socialism did not adhere to true Marxism but was rather a product of the works of consecutive Socialist theorists and activists such as Lenin and La Salle who emphasised the role of the state as an enforcing agent of socialism, he said, was young and emerging within French left wing today.

"It (the new political culture) is decentralised ... and rejects the arbitrary dominations of the leaders and the state," he had said then. He also said that the new left wing political thought concerns the deprived rungs and sectors of the society including immigrants and the handicapped and addresses the aspiration and the

needs of the young and women. In Mr. Rocard's opinion his self-management Socialism could provide a development alternative for underdeveloped countries. These views and theories did not prevent him, however, from participating in the Socialist-led cabinet which came to power in 1980.

In that year the coalition with the Communists was renewed but eventually broke down again when the Communists left the government last year.

Mr. Rocard, an economist by profession and a member of the high level corps of inspectors des finances was chosen as a minister of planning and regional development in the first Pierre Mauroy government in 1981 and was reappointed to this post in the second cabinet the same year. He was later appointed as a minister of agriculture until he quit the cabinet last April in protest over the governments endorsement of the proportional representation election system.

Mr. Rocard opposed the proportional representation system "because it is rather very difficult for any party to win a majority that allows it to form a cabinet without entering into coalitions with other parties. Thus the winning party which could not get the required majority on its own would find itself making compromises on its programme to smaller parties and consequently such forced coalitions weaken the party which leads the government."

His resignation from the Socialist cabinet, however, did not affect his loyalty to the party nor his activities within it. In fact and as the vote in the last Socialist congress in Toulouse last October showed Mr. Rocard now enjoyed the support of around a third of the party. Yet this increase in the party's support for him was not the main reason which compelled him to propose his nomination for the presidency, which he announced last June: but it was the tremendous support that he enjoys outside the party that makes him the candidate who is best poised to defeat the rightist candidates next March.

The strongest rival for Mr. Rocard on the party's nomination will of course be Mr. Mitterrand, that is if the president decided to run again. There is also Lionel Jospin, who is supported by "Mr. Mitterrand and who was chosen by him as a successor leader of the Socialist Party. Mr. Jospin, however, does not enjoy Mr. Rocard's popularity among the French public but he stands a better chance to win his party's support due to Mitterrand's backing. But if that will be the case or if Mr. Mitterrand decides to run again Mr. Rocard will find himself forced to withdraw, or and this seems to be a remote possibility, to enter the race on his own outside the party's ticket.

Ironically, however, if Mr. Rocard decides to run on his own, he stands a very good chance of winning the presidency or at least participating in a coalition government, making use of the proportional representation system he so strongly opposes. But some political observers of French politics tend to rule out this option since it involves risking the support of the Socialists for ever and would undermine his credibility as a principled politician a trait that, in his view, constituted his main asset in the eyes of the French people.

Qadhafi invites Reagan to his 'coloured' house-tent

By Jennifer Parmelee
The Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya — An automatic rifle and a feather duster hung from the rafters of his colourful tent headquarters as Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi discussed war and peace, utopia and tyranny, love and hate.

The 43-year-old Libyan leader was in a relaxed mood as he entertained six women journalists last Saturday night, introducing them to his wife Safia, four of his seven children and extending an impromptu invitation to U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Qadhafi, who is perhaps best known in the Western world for his harsh anti-American and anti-Israeli rhetoric, appeared eager to offer that same audience a rare glimpse of his human side against a warm domestic backdrop.

Although most of the substance of his two-hour interview was not new, the tone was decidedly soft for a man who has often incited his people to "eat the livers" of their enemies.

"Yes, why not?" Qadhafi responded with a big smile, his palms outstretched, when asked if he would welcome Reagan to his tent on the grounds of his heavily fortified barracks, where he works, relaxes and entertains other world leaders.

Asked why he chose just

women for the interview, Qadhafi said: "It is because I encourage women to be free. I feel women everywhere are oppressed and I would like to see a world of men and women equal."

A top female aide, Fatia Saker, added that Qadhafi believed women had "more power" than men to convince their audience and a better ability to grasp his complexities.

The Libyan leader told his six visitors: "We have no hostile intentions to do these dangerous things against the United States." He said he would send Libyan suicide squads into American streets only in the case of American or Israeli "aggression" against Libya.

But he made no effort to conceal his intentions against Israel, which he has long said must be "crushed" in order to achieve Middle East peace.

Claiming that the Israelis want "to destroy all other nations... until there is only them, the chosen people of God," he called on outside forces to allow Israelis and Arabs to settle their differences themselves.

The session began with a family visit inside Qadhafi's tent headquarters of bright red, green and yellow checked cloth, open to the night air and equipped with straw mats to cover the sandy earth and a large television with a video cassette recorder.

His wife, with long, dark tresses

and wide, friendly brown eyes, sat under a blanket with two of her six sons — khamis, 2, and Self Al Arab, 4 — upon her lap, while 12-year-old Saadi took photographs of the group.

Self Al Arab, whose name means sword of the Arabs, had decorated his younger brother's face with red markings Qadhafi said were modelled after the American Indians.

Mrs. Qadhafi, his second wife after a divorce, is a former nurse who captured his heart while he was recovering from an appendix operation three months after his September 1969 coup.

Qadhafi, who was raised on the sandy waste near the coastal town of Sirte, the son of a livestock raiser, said that several of his older siblings had died of malaria during the days when Libya had poor medical care. He said he wanted all his seven children to become doctors "to treat these poor people in Africa."

He confessed he had particularly high hopes for his only daughter, 8-year-old Aisha, who has inherited her father's striking dark eyes and stood around carefully watching the foreigners long after her brothers had gone outside to play.

He said she had "aspirations" to follow in his footsteps as leader.

Qadhafi, whose Green Book political manifesto is based on the belief that people should rule themselves without any formal

government, was asked if his people could carry on the revolution without him.

"I think so, because now the masses are mobilised," he said. "There are people's committees and revolutionary committees everywhere. They can go on without me... The Green Book is the conclusion of all the human beings' struggle to achieve their dreams."

Qadhafi conceded that his goal of what he describes as "a practical utopia" has not quite been reached.

Often, in his impatient, out-

spoken way, he upbraids Libyans for relying on foreign goods and labour.

"All petroleum societies are lazy," he said of his nation that has grown accustomed to a cushion of oil wealth.

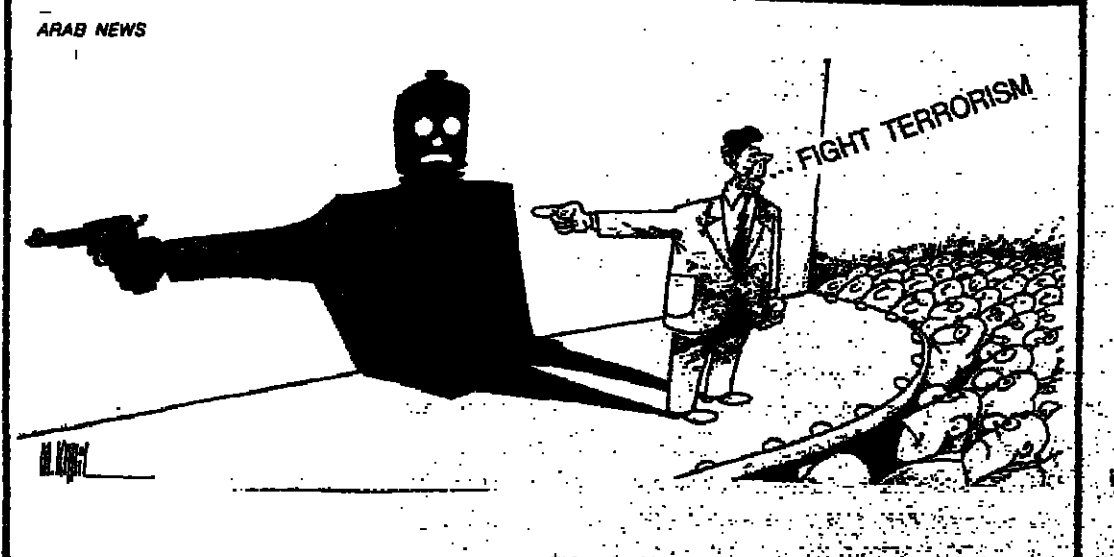
He also admitted that not all of the regular army, which Western observers consider the biggest threat to his government, is pleased by Qadhafi's goal of eliminating them in favour of a "people's army" in which every citizen would defend the country.

Qadhafi, while maintaining he doesn't want to be under Soviet

domination any more than that of the United States, generally is uncritical of Soviet policies.

But the man who has promised to support "freedom fighters" around the world, when asked if he didn't feel some kinship with Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviets, said:

"It is difficult to know who is really Mujahadeen (Muslim holy warrior), who is bought by America, who is reactionary. But anyway, it is the responsibility of the Afghan government because they invited the Soviets."



Mule: More to be respected than ridiculed

By Boris Wehrhahn
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — "He's got long ears and a Roman nose/tie's knobby knees and I suppose it's only fair to ridicule that curious animal called a mule."

Hiram Savage, who wrote that immortal stanza (and many other) in his poem, "Anatomy of a Mule," may not be exactly what William Faulkner had in mind when he urged the mules to inspire "some Homer of the cotton fields" to "Sing the Saga of the mule and of his place in the South."

Yet, a curious thing is happening to that curious animal called a mule. It is winning not ridicule but respect at this late date in American history.

The U.S. Army, which eliminated its last mule units and disposed of its last mules in 1957, is considering bringing at least some mules back.

And Gen. in Denton, Texas, where Paul and Betsy Hutchins founded the American Donkey and Mule Society in 1967 because they feared that those noble beasts were heading toward extinction, the Hutchins now report a tremendous resurgence of interest in mules, as well as a sizable increase in the American mule population.

Clearly, something is happening out there that proves again the truth of the old adage: What goes around, comes around.

A mule has, to its supporters, innumerable advantages over its more generally esteemed competitor, the horse.

For example, a mule confronted by unlimited food will eat only enough to satisfy its hunger. A horse will eat until it makes itself sick. But that's not all.

"A mule stands heat terribly well," says Betsy Hutchins, the ADMS executive secretary. "It stays sound in the legs and the feet better. It's tougher, and it takes care of itself better. It is sure-footed and enduring. But most of all, it uses mules, and donkeys too, because of their personalities. They are extremely intelligent; in a dangerous situation, they'll hesitate until they think a way out of it. They're partners in a ride; you don't just get on it and tell it where to go."

If, that is, you can get it to go at all.

Need it be said that a mule is the hybrid offspring of a male donkey, or jack, and a female horse? Or that the reverse cross between a male horse and a female donkey, or jenny, produces an offspring called a mule?

Historically, of course, mules were used as pack animals as well as for riding. Their history goes back very far; mules are mentioned in the Old Testament books of Ezekiel and 1 Chronicles, and most authorities trace their ancestry to Cappadocia, the center of modern Turkey.

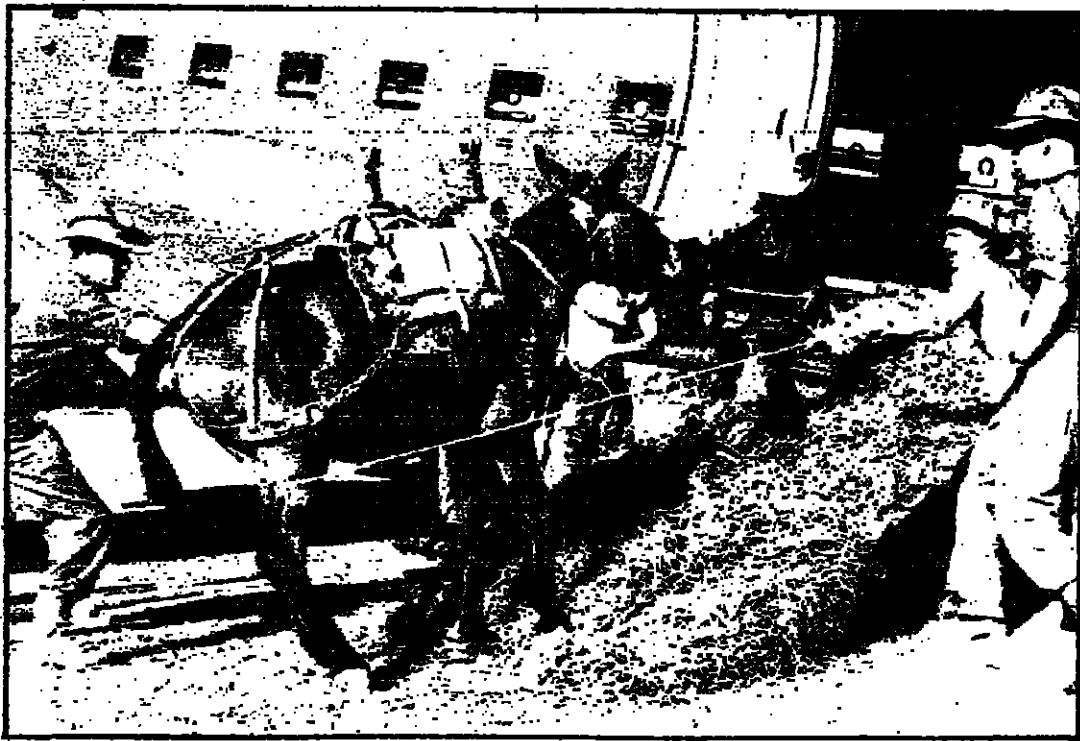
Valued by emperors
Mules carried supplies for Alexander the Great's armies, weapons for Roman armies, and artillery for Napoleon. Their sure-footedness, which derives in part from the fact that they are smaller and more oval than those of a horse, make them ideal for mountainous terrain. And their strength, endurance, and longevity make them extremely useful as draft animals, too.

It was this multiplicity of utility that led George Washington to consider becoming the Father of American Mule Breeding as well as Father of His Country. Mules had been in America since the days of the earliest Spanish explorers, but it was Washington, with typical perspicacity, who foresaw a major role for them.

The general acquired a pair of highly regarded Spanish jacks from King Charles III. One died on the cross-ocean voyage, but the other, aptly named Royal Gift, arrived in Boston on Oct. 26, 1785.

Royal Gift was joined soon by a Maltese jack, the Knight of Malta, sent to Washington by Lafayette. Washington's breeding experiments showed that Royal Gift's male descendants were best suited for heavy draft work. The Knight of Malta's for saddle riding. John Jay, then Secretary of the Treasury, oversaw Washington's Mount Vernon estate, sent the pair on triumphant stud tours of the South for several years.

Mules became vital to the development of American agriculture, especially in the cotton fields of the South. At their peak in 1925, government census figures listed more than 6 million of them. Then the Depression, crop diversification, and mechanization on the farm led to a long decline.



Despite the mule's history of service to the armies of Alexander the Great and Napoleon, this Missouri pack mule balked in 1944 when ordered into a transport plane at a loading base in India. Nine mules were strangled in bamboo stalls with bulldozers, tra-

ctors, and jeeps to Burma during an Allied World War II campaign against the Japanese. During the airift, one mule kicked a hole in the glider in which it was travelling at 8,000 feet.

No mule census

Paul Hutchins, president of the ADMS, guesses there are about 250,000 in America today; the government for some reason no longer has an official mule census.

But it was not only on the farms that mules were important; no, indeed. They pulled canal barges in the days before railroads arrived, and hauled, trolley cars and hearses before automobiles came along. Mules pulled wagons with barrels of oil to refineries in the early days of the petroleum industry.

In one of the best-known examples of mule heroism, 20-mule teams dragged wagons loaded with valuable borax from the middle of Death Valley to the nearest rail line 165 miles away. Only the best, strongest, and smartest mules were chosen to pull those giant 14-ton cargo wagons in the 1880s.

When Americans went to war, American mules went, too. Mules long were used as military pack animals, though not always to the pleasure of the military bureaucracy.

In what was obviously not the last mistake of his life, Secretary of War Jefferson Davis got the bright idea in 1856 of using camels instead. He set up a test, using both camels and mules to pack the gear of troops moving from Texas to California. The camels soon dropped out with sore feet and ching backs. Their loads were shifted to the mules, which carried double loads the rest of the way.

In World War I, the U.S. Army sent 52,375 draft mules and 9,825 pack mules to Europe, while Allied armies acquired another 40,000 American mules, some

5,000 mules made the ultimate sacrifice for the cause. In World War II, the Army used more than 30,000 mules in Italy's mountains and along the Burma-India Road.

Deactivated in 1956

Despite the mule's adoption by the Army as its mascot because of its "strength, heartiness, and perseverance," advancing technology doomed its military career. In December 1956, the Army announced plans to deactivate the last mule-equipped pack artillery and quartermaster units, based at Fort Carson, Colo. The 4th Field Artillery Battalion (Pack) was replaced with an "artificial" unit.

But in 1985 the Army began investigating the possibility of drafting mules again. In creating five light infantry divisions, the military thinkers wondered how such forces, operating without armor or artillery, could be quickly and easily deployed and moved where needed. One possibility: pack mules.

Lt. Col. Craig McNab, an Army spokesman, cautions that "this mule business is only a minor effort in a major effort." The Army may choose not to enlist mules at all. More likely, he suggests, the Army will train some soldiers to handle mules so that they can work with mules used by the West German and Italian armies.

Still, McNab notes, mules have obvious advantages. For one thing, he says, properly fed, they are virtually indestructible. For another, they have an extremely vocal and positive constituency, who write and telephone on the mule's behalf.

"People can identify with mules," McNab says. "They're very low-tech."

Soviet Jews find the going tough in the cities of America

Following the Geneva summit, observers have been weighing the prospects of a new period of détente. The last genuine thaw in Soviet-American relations took place some 15 years ago. It led to a certain easing of restrictions on emigration for members of various Soviet minorities. As a result, some 130,000 Soviet citizens (mainly Jews) have become American citizens since 1970. How have they fared in the land of their dreams? Bernard Guetta reports.

NEW YORK — The latest wave of Russian immigrants to the United States — those who have been let out in the last 15 years — can be found in various American cities such as Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. But the vast majority of them have congregated on the banks of the Hudson River at Brighton Beach, a graceless working-class area in deepest Brooklyn.

It is there, in "Little Russia," that the poorest and oldest have remained, and that the most recent arrivals start their new lives. It is there, too, that those who have been successful (the farther they live from Brighton Beach, the greater their success) come to do their week's shopping, re-immersion themselves in their national culture, and get a whiff of the world they have left behind — its colours, its cooking smells, its language (Russian or Georgian).

Lubov's Fashion, the Primorski Restaurant, the Tashkent Cafe, the Black Sea Book Store, and the numerous grocery stores in "Little Russia" selling Muscovite, Ukrainian or Georgian products are all to be found within 10 blocks of each other, sandwiched between two other ghettos, one Hispanic, the other black.

Puerto Ricans who can hardly speak a word of English stand on street corners selling newspapers printed in the Cyrillic alphabet to tightly scarved old habuskas — who pay in dollars.

Twenty-six-year-old Alex who came from Tbilisi in 1980, earns \$5 an hour working in a pharmacy run by two women (a Georgian and a Ukrainian), who have just finished paying off their mortgage.

That sort of pay does not get you very far in New York. But Alex has just married a girl from Minsk and hopes that he, too, will soon be able to set up in partnership and become his own boss.

"It won't be easy," he admits. "But it's only since I've lived here that I've understood why the United States is so powerful. Bombs have nothing to do with it. It's a question of attitudes — all you need here is the will to do what you want to do. No one will tell you that the status you aspire to is not for the likes of you."

What prompted Alex to leave the Soviet Union was not so much anti-Semitism, which is more or less unknown in Georgia, or the lack of freedom, but "the constant discrepancy between the official presentation of the facts and actual facts."

In young people especially, the phenomenon produces a state of "permanent mental shock." When Alex came to the U.S., his initial reaction was almost one of shock at the degree of freedom that reigned there. He found it hard to express his own thoughts, and could not understand how journalists who wrote scathing articles about VIPs were not thrown in jail.

Unlike Alex, who seems to have come to terms with life in America, Misha, who was 13 in 1977 when he left Lvov with his father, wonders whether he might not have done better to stay back home.

"I was a good pupil," he says, "and could have become a physical education teacher, whereas here I didn't do well at school because I had language problems and spent too much time finding out blacks and Hispanics who kept on picking on me, chanting 'A Ruskie! A Ruskie!'"

Misha also feels — as do a great many Soviet immigrants — that there is too much crime in the U.S. He pins the blame on blacks and Hispanics, "most of whom are criminals." When I reacted with surprise, he insisted: "Yes, yes, the majority are. I know what I'm talking about."

But he immediately went on to say: "I understand why, though, because in America if you are out of work or have lost your job you quickly become desperate and turn to crime. In the Soviet Union, everyone has a job. And even if they are phoney jobs and are very badly paid, you never get the feeling of having every door slammed in your face."

Misha's father died in America, as did his brother. His mother has more or less given him up as a bad job, and his sister is in the throes of a nervous breakdown. He has a very poorly paid job as a hire-car chauffeur — he is paid depending on the number of customers he gets. The American dream still seems to be just as remote as when he was back in the Soviet Union.

"If, by the age of 30, I'm not earning enough to be able to offer a woman a happy life as my wife, I'll stick up a bank — not because I think I have any chance of pulling it off, but just to get killed."

This is not simply wild Central-European romanticism. It is an attitude that has become all too common among the American poor, though it is an exception in immigrant Soviet circles, where, more than in any other com-

munity, failure is regarded as the worst crime of all.

Soviet immigrants arrived not only hoping that a better life awaited them, but often, also, convinced that all the risks they had taken in applying for an exit visa were in the end worth it because they were going to live in a more just society. Any admission of failure, then, means either that one has simply been incapable of seizing the opportunities that came up, or that "better" does not mean "perfect" and freedom does not automatically guarantee justice.

Matters are made more difficult by the fact that when they arrive in the U.S. their expectations are too high, partly because Soviet education does not train people to take a balanced, realistic view of their own achievements, and partly — paradoxically — because the communities in question have on the whole integrated well into American society. Most immigrants are educated city-dwellers, and their initial difficulties are easily counterbalanced by the exemplary solidarity of the American Jewish community.

Albert Shvily, a painter who did not want to be constricted by socialist realism, and a Jew who wanted "to display his Jewish culture," came to America four years ago. Already he has had shows in SoHo art galleries and plays an active part in the life of a small Georgian synagogue recently opened in New York.

Shvily is by no means wealth. He misses Tbilisi, and the friends and relations he left behind. But he has become so used to his new life that when he calls Georgia he speaks as though there were no possibility of the telephone being tapped.

His pictures reflect his life: they combine motifs from Russia and America, Judaism and Christianity, Manhattan and Tbilisi. "I was a Jew in Tbilisi and a Georgian in Moscow," he says. "Here I count as a Russian, and even in Israel I'd be regarded as a foreigner by the Sabras."

Although he admires European culture more than American culture, and talks of going to live in Israel one day, the United States is in the process of becoming his homeland.

No doubt he is attached to some of the same American qualities that first attracted another Soviet immigrant, Nathalie Sadomskaja — the country's "multi-ethnic character." "Its openness, which means you don't remain an immigrant," an anthropologist and an expert on Spain (which, however, she was never authorized to visit), she was forced into exile 11 years ago together with her husband: their activities in opposition circles were more than the KGB could tolerate.

What had her first impression of America been? "Terrible! Terrible compared with Europe, or even with Moscow. Look at American cities. I said to myself: they're not really cities at all. And all those fire-escapes that make buildings look as if they've got intestines hanging out. And the incredible number of left-handed people."

Then the penny dropped. Americans aren't interested in window-dressing. The facades of buildings may be scruffy but the apartments inside are beautiful. There is no reason why a fire escape should not be visible. And school-children are not tortured simply because they are naturally left-handed."

And how did she enjoy teaching in the United States? "I like the teacher-student relationship. The teacher is not some distant God. Nor is there an imposed curriculum that has to be adhered to down to the last letter in an atmosphere of censorship, surveillance and constant monitoring as there is in the Soviet Union."

But there is another side of the coin: "I've discovered that rivalry within the teaching staff can make some people behave like real gangsters. Relations with my colleagues were much better in the Soviet Union, because we were all under the orders of the same director, whereas here the members of each department all have their say. That's fine as long as you yourself have some degree of influence."

"Another thing: although I can write absolutely what I want in the United States, there aren't any research institutes where you can devote all your time to writing without having any other obligations."

"Here, I feel under no restrictions whatsoever. But I'm kept on my toes all the time, especially by my students, and am not allowed to have an off day. I work a thousand times harder here — and that is something the KGB will never get people to do back home, however hard it tries."

According to an opinion poll carried out by the Council of Jewish Federations, a clear majority of immigrant Soviet Jews believe that friendships and cultural activities are richer in the Soviet Union than in the U.S. That judgment is reversed when it comes to such considerations as the quality of housing, the standard of living, and the freedom to be a Jew.

Outside a night-club packed with contented Russian-born Americans, I saw a cadaverous young man sloping along the main street of Brighton Beach babbling to himself in an extraordinary mixture of Russian and English. Had it not been for the Walkman he was carrying, he might have stepped out of a Chagall painting — Le Monde.

World's most bookish nation hits on new fad — books

By Thorir Gudmundsson

Reuter

everyday conversation. Until the advent of television and radio, it was traditional for the

head of every household to read out tales of the ancient champions during the long and dark winter nights in the small wood-rock-and-earth farmsteads in which most Icelanders lived.

REYKJAVIK — Icelandic publishers hope a Christmas book-buying spree heralds the return to a tradition which gave this island of 240,000 a reputation as the most bookish nation in the world.

Books have long been the favourite Christmas present in Iceland and stores last month sold some 400,000. This represents almost two books for every man, woman and child on the Atlantic island.

Iceland vaunts publishing more books per capita than any other nation, and the islanders' love of books goes back far.

European travellers in the 18th century reported being astonished by the book-lined shelves to be found even in the grimey hovels at a time when the Icelanders were a nation of poor fishermen under the Danish crown.

In Iceland, about 80 per cent of all book sales are made in December. One book store manager estimated handling seven per cent of his annual turnover on one day — December 23.

Two years ago, books seemed to be going out of style, elbowed out by videos. But Christmas 1985 saw book sales at a 10-year high.

Book prices are kept high by the tiny size of print runs, however, with the average price being \$35. Icelandic readers do not go in for the average best-seller.

One book most in demand at Christmas was a volume of memoirs about Gudmundur Kjaernested, a ship captain who gained local fame during Iceland's "cod wars" with Britain in the 1970s.

Most Icelandic books are biographies or autobiographies. Six of the best-selling authors last year were Icelanders.

The tradition for biographies and tales recounting the deeds of Icelandic heroes goes back eight centuries. It was then that Icelandic monks recorded the stories of their Viking ancestors on calf-skin parchments, now commonly known as the Sagas.

The Sagas include some of the pearls of world literature. In Iceland, the Sagas are commonly known and feature frequently in



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Happiness is a 96 per cent cut in salary

Soo Pickett was earning more than £100,000 a year in the City of London when she decided to quit and train as a nursery school teacher. She told *Chive-Woman*: "I've become a much nicer person."

LONDON — Back in May, 30-year-old Soo Pickett was chief floating-rate note dealer with the Bank of America and one of the City of London's top earners.

Top Eurobond dealers like her have been earning around £100,000 to £150,000 (\$144,000 to \$216,000) a year, including bonuses. The bull market in Eurodollars has been particularly profitable for them. According to Soo's colleagues, she was expected to continue her rise through the bank and the salary scale.

But on the spur of the moment, she quit. She is now training for a job as a nursery school teacher with a starting salary of around £5,000 a year.

"That was the only way to leave, on an impulse," she says now. "I never would have done it if I'd forced myself to think about it overnight. Then I'd have gone back in my company Porsche to my house with a 5 per cent mortgage from the bank, and looked at my wardrobe and all the things I could afford to buy, and decided to stay."

But Soo has no regrets about a career change which means a cut of 96 per cent in her pay. "My adrenaline gland has disappeared," she says. "I no longer blow my car horn in frustration whenever I'm wasting time. I have found out who the milkman is — and my neighbours. I'm actually meeting people with normal jobs in the outside world."

She admits: "It's difficult to get out of that sort of money. The way they usually trap you is by giving you a big mortgage you can't afford to give up. Luckily I steered clear of that."

Soo continues to live in a modest terraced house in the inner London borough of Islington. She has also kept her Porsche, although for the first time for years she has started using public transport.

After taking a two-and-a-half-year course at the Sorbonne, she

first came into the City of London as a translator for a stockbroker. "When I was there, I got a whiff of the dealing room," she says. "You either like it or get strangled by it. There is always movement, always news, the telephone is always ringing. You have no time for private conversations."

She started her job with the Bank of America as a salesperson of floating rate notes (FRNs) five-and-a-half years ago. The bank had difficulty in finding an experienced trader of FRNs, so she agreed to take on the job.

Since 1980, the market in dollar-denominated FRNs has mushroomed both in London and abroad. Soo built up a three-person team of market-makers backed by a large number of sales people. She was in charge of trading a "book" of bonds worth well over \$200 million, on which winning or losing \$100,000 was all in a day's work.

As the market has grown and more players have entered, the bond dealers' safety margin — the spread between the prices at which they buy from, and sell to, investors and other dealers — has been squeezed from 50 cents per \$100-worth of bonds to 10 or even 5 cents.

"Five years ago, we were very naive," she says. "It was less hard work to make money and we did not risk as much. The more competitive and global the market has got, the earlier it has become. I had to be in the office at 7.15 in the morning to speak to the Far East and stay until 7.15 at night."

But even after she had driven home and collapsed into bed at night, her work for the day was often not finished. "I would get phone calls in the middle of the night, two o'clock, four o'clock, sometimes from our salesmen in Singapore, sometimes from our head office in San Francisco. The worst was when I made a mistake in a telex before leaving the office. Then the telephone would keep ringing the whole night."

Despite the competition, she had a close working relationship with the other traders from both Bank of America and competing banks. "We were very predatory," she said. "If someone makes the wrong price, no quarter is given. But it's a very close market. Everyone knows everyone else. No matter how badly we treated each other dealing, we would get together afterwards for a drink."

But there were few occasions when she felt like socialising with outsiders. "You need to sleep and drink bonds," she said. "You have no time to think about anything else. It was very difficult to unwind. When I was invited out for a dinner party, I spent the whole evening thinking of numbers — bond yields and so on — and wondering when I was going to get away. I spent a lot of weekends catching up on sleep and making sure the house was in order."

But if the pressures are great, so are the rewards. High salaries and salary rises are regarded as important not so much because the extra money is needed — although it might be by the Eurobond dealer who believes he will not last beyond 40 — but as a way of keeping score.

"Pay rises are an indication of worth and self-esteem," says Soo. "But I could not justify how much I got for what I did from the point of view of social welfare — except that I was a great consumer."

Her salary in fact was modest compared with a few traders who were earning well over £150,000.

She says she was headhunted twice but declined the offers. "I was one of the very few people who stayed at the Bank of America. Women are always more faithful in this business than men. It is difficult to go through all the hassle of finding yourself in a new trading room and having to reassert yourself with the men. There are very few women traders. Most are on the sales side (of the Eurobond market)."

Soo gives a further explanation for the lack of women in the dealing rooms: "Bond dealers are

supposed to be like barrow boys. But I found it difficult to take the criticism or the roughness. If the manager would come in telling us to turn our positions round, I would get offended and tell him to let me do my own job. Women find it difficult to take that."

What do you need to become a bond trader?

"Both a gambling instinct and a bit of intellectual equipment," she says.

"Half the traders do not have degrees — you still find the barrow boys. But since I've been there, the Oxbridge element has come more into the market. There are many young stockbrokers who do not want to wait around to become partners. The average of FRN traders is about 30."

She adds: "You feel very personal about your FRN book. You know exactly what you have made and lost. Every trader has his open positions engraved on his heart. But it is difficult to know why you get some things right and others wrong."

Was it only because of the pressures of her job that she had decided to quit? "The only thing I really could stand was the internal politics of a big bank — and the pettiness, like wasting hours discussing how much money salesmen would be allocated for each trade. All I wanted to do was straight bond dealing. I liked my team very much but when the management told me to cut my book I would argue."

"In the bond market, people get burnt out and leave. There are very few managerial and administrative jobs. It's amazing how quickly people in the market age."

Had she found any disadvantages to leaving the City? "It's difficult to adjust on the money side, to worry about your bank balance every month. And I miss the prestige of being a banker, a woman banker. I was known by everyone in the FRN fraternity. I liked being one of the few women. But I don't have any regrets about leaving. I think I've become a much nicer person" — Financial Times news feature.

Forest, Rangers crash out of F.A. Cup play

LONDON (AP) — First Division sides Nottingham Forest and Queens Park Rangers were humiliated by division two sides Monday and tumbled out of the English F.A. (Football Association) Soccer Cup.

Forest, ninth in the Division One standings, crashed 2-3 at Blackburn Rovers in a replay, while Rangers stumbled 0-1 at Carlisle United, which is bottom of Division Two.

On a night of upsets, two Third Division teams downed Second Division opposition. Notts County, which was relegated from Division Two last season, won 2-0 at Stoke City, which dropped from Division One.

And in a replay that went to extra time, runaway Division Three leader Reading downed Huddersfield Town 2-1.

In other near surprises, West Bromwich Albion, bottom of Division Two and looking a certainty for relegation, came away from high-flying Sheffield Wednesday with a 2-2 draw to earn a lucrative

replay Thursday.

And Portsmouth, chasing promotion to Division One, went down 2-3 at First Division relegation candidate Aston Villa after extra time at Villa Park.

A extra time goal by Mark Brennan rescued First Division struggler Ipswich Town at Bradford City in a replay.

But there was no prospect of an upset at Middlesbrough, where three goals by Danny Wallace gave First Division Southampton a 3-1 triumph over the home side.

John Lowey fired Blackburn ahead after 18 minutes against Forest, which won 3-0 at Tottenham Hotspur in a league match on Saturday. Colin Walsh levelled, but in the last three minutes before the interval, the home side scored twice more through Northern Ireland international winger

Noel Brotherston and striker Chris Thompson.

Gary Birtles, a former England international, pulled a goal back for Forest in the second half, but Blackburn held on to earn a fourth round visit to league champion Everton, which has reached the final for the past two seasons.

On a muddy surface at Carlisle, John Cooke's first goal of the season in the sixth minute was enough to sink Queens Park Rangers, who play their home games on an all-weather artificial pitch.

Carlisle travels to Fourth Division Peterborough in the fourth round.

Michael Waitt and Ian McParland were Notts County's goal-scoring heroes at Stoke City, while Trevor Senior, whose 19 goals this season have boosted Reading's promotion charge, bagged the two that ended Huddersfield's cup hopes.

Notts County's prize was a lucrative home tie against Tottenham while Reading must play fellow Third Division side Bury in the next round.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Lendl voted 'Player of the Year'

NEW YORK (R) — Ivan Lendl, winner of 10 tournaments last year, including his first U.S. Open title, has been chosen Men's Tennis Player of the Year in voting by his fellow professionals. Lendl, who won 80 of 87 matches he played in 1985, received the honour Monday night at the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) annual awards ceremony.

Dalglis to snare 100th cap

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Kenny Dalglis, player-manager of the English soccer club Liverpool, is expected to win his 100th international cap for Scotland in a friendly game against Romania at Hampden Park March 26. The match, announced Monday by Scottish soccer officials, is a warm-up game for Scotland before the World Cup Finals in Mexico. Romania failed to qualify for the finals.

Morocco begins preparations for African and World Cups

RABAT (R) — Morocco's Brazilian coach Jose Faria has gathered a pool of 44 players to begin preparations for the African Nations Cup and World Cup soccer finals later this year.

The squad has been assembled at the Moulay Rachid Sports Institute near Rabat.

It will be cut to 22 for the African title bid in Cairo in March before going on to intensive training at the Moroccan mountain resort of Ifrane.

The 1,400-metres Ifrane altitude is comparable to Monterrey in Mexico where Morocco will play England, Poland and Portugal in Group F of the World Cup Finals first round.

Faria, who has been converted to Islam, is still awaiting the release of Moroccan players to foreign clubs, particularly Aziz Bouzerbal and Mustapha Hadjaoui.

This Super Bowl no gambler's dream

By Robert Macy
Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS, Nevada — There is disagreement among oddsmakers at Nevada's sports books about the Super Bowl game.

Not about the point-spread — the Chicago Bears were a solid 10-point favourite Monday — but rather on the impact the New England Patriots would have on betting action.

Some oddsmakers say the Chicago-New England match will probably draw about \$5 million less than a Miami-Chicago match would have.

But some say betting could still set a record in Nevada, the only place in the United States where sports betting is legal.

"I think we will be in the vicinity of \$45 million," Sonny Reizner predicted of betting totals at the

state's 34 legal sports books. Should his prediction be fulfilled, it will be the heaviest bet Super Bowl of all time.

"It looks like a dud," countered Jimmy Vaccaro of the MGM Grand Hotel sports book, who predicted a bet total under \$30 million. "I venture to guess there'll be a 25 per cent cut in our share of the Super Bowl pie."

Last year's Super Bowl between the San Francisco 49ers and the Miami Dolphins, drew nearly \$40 million in Nevada books — a record.

Reizner, the long-time oddsmaker at the Castaways Sports book, said a Dolphin win Sunday would have meant an additional \$5 million in betting action.

"Chicago people are more geared toward big betting than people from New England," Reizner said, noting heavy early

action on the Bears.

Art Manteris, oddsmaker at the Caesars Palace sports book, said the Bears appear too awesome to beat, but the Patriots may capture a lot of action as underdogs.

"America always loves an underdog," Manteris said. "I think by Super Bowl Sunday the Patriots will have captured the imagination of the American public, the same way the Kansas City Royals did in the (baseball) playoffs."

Manteris opened the Super Bowl betting Sunday afternoon with four minutes remaining in the Patriots-Dolphins game and began getting good two-way action.

Vaccaro put up his line 20 minutes after the game and counted only \$15,000 in bets Sunday night, compared to \$250,000 bet the first night when the Dolphins-49ers line was established a year ago.

Navratilova crushes Shriver in final

WASHINGTON (R) — Defending champion Martina Navratilova scored a 6-1, 6-4 victory Monday over compatriot American and doubles partner Pam Shriver in the \$150,000 Washington Women's Tennis Tournament.

Navratilova appeared to be heading for an easy time of it as she raced through the first set in 23 minutes, but Shriver refused to go down without a fight.

"I've seen her start quickly, but it was ridiculous," said Shriver. "She was serving well and cracking her backhand returns."

Navratilova ran up a speedy 3-0 lead which included four aces before Shriver could begin to get a grip on the game.

Shriver came out fighting for the second set but incurred a conduct violation for kicking the ball into the crowd after netting the first point. But she settled down, and the arena erupted as Shriver won the second game to break Navratilova for the first time.

Her breakthrough was short-lived however, as Navratilova broke right back, and Shriver did not take the lead again. Although she made a fight of it,

her 66-minute, 6-1, 6-4 defeat was the worst drubbing she took at the hands of Navratilova in more than two years.

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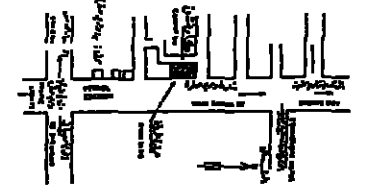
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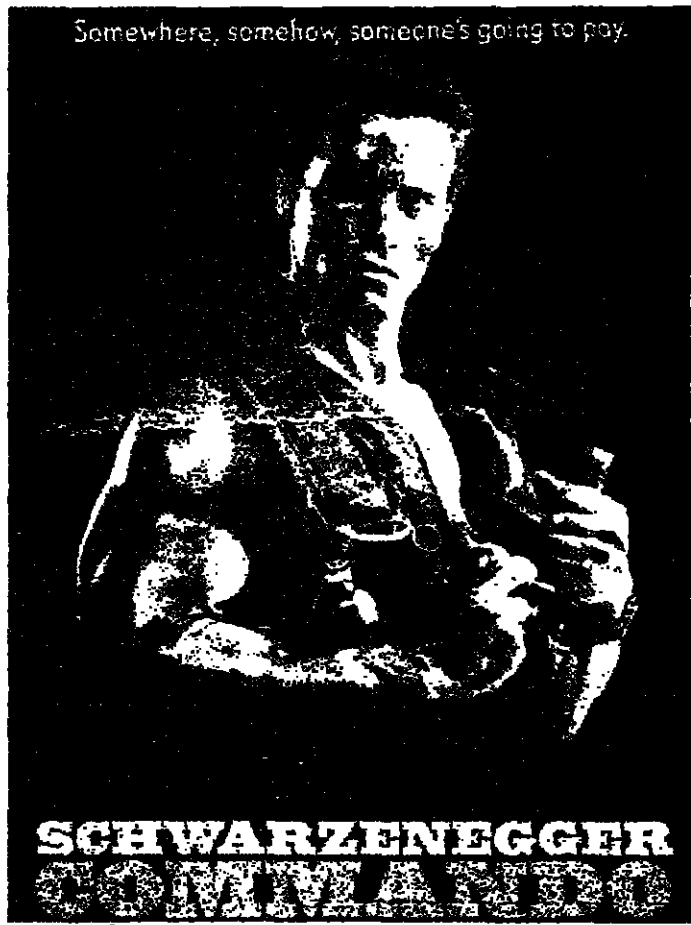
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CONCORD
Tel: 677420

COMMANDO
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema
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Tel: 625155

COMMANDO
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

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AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 622112

HIGH-BALLIN
(Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema
Philadelphia
Tel: 634144 - 634149

CLOSED AND SHORTLY WILL BE REOPENED

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 622198

HERO
(Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema
OPERA
Abdell, behind Alfa Office
Tel: 675573

BANNED IN GIRLS' SCHOOLS
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4375/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4000/05	Canadian dollars
	2.4752/62	West German marks
	2.7865/75	Dutch guilders
	2.0985/68	Swiss francs
	50.52/57	Belgian francs
	7.5800/50	French francs
	1687/1688	Italian lire
	202.70/80	Japanese yen
	7.6410/60	Swedish crowns
	7.6115/65	Norwegian crowns
	9.0920/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	340.10/340.60	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed above the lows after the Bank of England said a further increase in base rates would be inappropriate at the present time, dealers said. Trading interest was moderate and at 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was fifteen points down at 1369.6 after a low of 1365.7.

Opening falls reflected speculation that a base rate increase was imminent due to further upward pressure on U.K. money market rates. Dealers said the market was still apprehensive and institutional interest was absent.

Government bonds showed net falls of up to 1/2 point but gold prices and North American indices were higher.

ICI was 2p lower at 799, Lucas closed 20p down at 476 while BHP rose 2p to 525 after 318 on renewed bid speculation. Debenhams, Westland ended 3p higher at 96 following news in company buyer had acquired a total stake of around 15 per cent.

Guinness closed 7p off at 298 despite full-year profits in line with market forecasts. Granada shed 4p to 234 after confirmation that it is in merger talks with the Ladbroke group which raised 11p to 312. In lower stories Burton held its annual general meeting on Tuesday closing 27p off at 501. Gevoor fell 12p to 46 in thin trading as the International Tin Council meeting resumed, dealers said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15, 1986
GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is good for finding ways to make your most cherished longings possible in a successful way. The afternoon brings a considerable amount of confusion.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan how to handle your responsibilities more efficiently in the morning, but later be careful in dealing with bigwigs.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Talk over with a clever partner how best you can gain a greater abundance. After lunch, avoid an argumentative new acquaintance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Handle your duties efficiently in the morning, but don't argue over a bill after lunch. Beware long-time associates in the evening.

MOONCHILD (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can go after new goals early and get fine results, but steer clear of a quarrelsome person in the afternoon.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 22) Show some special attention to your mate in the morning, but don't permit a grumpy fellow worker to upset you. Have a romantic evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Reach a meeting of minds with an associate early in the day, but don't be extravagant later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your surroundings cleaned up in the morning, but do nothing that can irritate a family tie. Be clever.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan amusements early in the day, but be sure to drive with care later. Find better ways to express your finest capabilities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your attention should be focused on your home in the morning, and in the afternoon do not overstep.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Contact as many partners as you can in the morning, but don't try to force any issues at this time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Pursue your ambitions in the morning, but later avoid anxieties and be happy. Contact good pals who can be helpful.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be charming in the morning and you can learn just about anything you want. Steer clear of a friend who could limit you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have the ability to make dreams materialize through practicality in early life. Much success can be achieved throughout the lifetime after much hard work, but the latter part of life will be full of pleasure and fun. There are philanthropic tendencies in this chart.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Geary

ACROSS

1. New Year's Eve
2. Discharge
3. Underneath
4. Handicapped
5. Not one
6. Lowly
7. Dressed
8. Subplots
9. Minimum
10. Decorative
11. Transfer
12. Clear
13. Charged
14. Particle
15. Thrust
16. Candy
17. Venomous
18. Snake
19. Chale
20. Favorable odds
21. Bedouin
22. Musical note
23. Sesame plants
24. Banishment
25. A kick out of you
26. You are such
27. It's
28. Testicles
29. Highway and
30. Wagon
31. Large
32. Republicans
33. King of
34. Party
35. A man as
36. Answer to the
37. Member
38. Punctuation
39. Musical prof.
40. Culinary con.
41. Shavings
42. Whirling range
43. Down
44. Plumber
45. Sarcasm
46. Sarcasm
47. Sarcasm
48. Sarcasm
49. Sarcasm
50. Sarcasm
51. Sarcasm
52. Sarcasm
53. Sarcasm
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59. Sarcasm
60. Sarcasm

Strike cuts Sudan's air, telecommunications links

CAIRO (R) — Sudan's air and telecommunications links with the outside world were virtually severed for the second day Tuesday after engineers went on strike for more pay, airline and communications officials here said.

Khartoum airport was closed and only one scheduled flight left Monday after engineers walked out in the morning.

The British Airways flight to Cairo took off under "visual flight rules" with an airline employee guiding it from the control tower, an airline official told Reuters.

Although the airport was closed, the head of Sudan's ruling transitional military council, General Abdul Rahman Swaraddah, left for a six-nation African summit in Djibouti.

Officials said the telecommunications situation was confused. A handful of messages were getting out but attempts to contact Khartoum by telex and telephone from Cairo failed.

Before the cut-off, engineering trade unions with 7,000 members said they planned a one-week strike to demand more pay. In particular, engineers trained at technical institutes are demanding pay parity with higher-paid university graduates.

Gas may continue ousting oil as energy source, report says

GENEVA (R) — Natural gas and other fuels are likely to continue displacing oil as an energy source in Europe and North America despite a recent decline in crude oil prices, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) said in a report released Monday.

Use of gas fuels has grown faster in recent years than demand for other primary energy sources in several of the ECE's 34 member states, the report said. The ECE comprises all European countries including the Soviet Union, plus the United States and Canada.

Soviet natural gas exports to West Europe were expected to rise from 33 billion cubic metres in 1984 to between 50 and 57 billion cubic metres in 1990, the report said.

"Whether gas demand continues to expand at the current rapid rate depends not only on economic activity, but also on relative prices and the completion of additional infrastructure," it said.

Oil's share in primary energy consumption had declined in all regions, particularly in North America and West Europe, it added.

W. German economy achieves 2.5 per cent growth in 1985

FRANKFURT (R) — The West German economy grew by a steady 2.5 per cent last year and could achieve a rate of three per cent in 1986, the country's Federal Statistics Office said Monday.

Last year's figure dipped below 1984's 2.7 per cent growth, which was the highest figure since the four per cent recorded in 1979.

Mr. Frank Dorow, economist at the statistics office, told a news conference.

Projections for this year saw the economy achieving three per cent growth, he added. Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said last month that 1986 growth could be as high as 3.5 per cent.

A harsh winter and slack consumer demand prevented Gross National Product (GNP) growth from reaching three per cent last year, Mr. Dorow said.

Exports were, as in 1984, the driving force behind the economy. West Germany's trade surplus hit a record 72 billion marks (\$29.1 billion), accounting for four per cent of GNP last year.

After explosive growth in 1979, the West German economy slowed rapidly. In 1982, the worst year of the recession, GNP slumped by one per cent.

But 1983 saw the beginnings of a recovery which has led to a massive stock market boom, meaty corporate profits and hopes that inflation will fall below two per cent this year, vying with Japan for the lowest rate in the industrialised world.

The 1985 GNP figure matches forecasts from Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition government.

Mr. Dorow said 11 billion marks (\$4.5 billion) in tax cuts planned by the government this year would give a direct boost to consumer demand, which has lagged far behind exports.

Exports rose a real 7.2 per cent last year, Mr. Dorow said. Imports grew too, but only at two-thirds of the pace in 1984.

Despite 1985's steady economic growth, the average number unemployed over the year rose to 2.3 million people — a 1.7 per cent increase over 1984.

Trials begin over near collapse of prominent bank

Meanwhile, two key figures in West Germany's second biggest bank failure since World War II went on trial Monday in what may become a courtroom drama lasting most of the year.

Mr. Wolfgang Stryj and Mr. Hans-Hermann Muenchmeyer, two partners in the private bank Schroeder, Muenchmeyer, Hengst and Co (SMH), face charges of fraud and breach of trust in the affair that led to the near collapse of SMH in November 1983.

Mr. Stryj, 48, told the district court in Frankfurt that he carried some responsibility for the failure to inform creditor banks fully of the extent of SMH's overcommitment to the Mainz-based construction equipment firm IBH Holding.

But Mr. Stryj as well as the 45-year-old Mr. Muenchmeyer denied any fraudulent intent.

G-5 efforts satisfy central bankers

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Leading central bankers said Monday they were satisfied with measures taken since last September to depress the value of the dollar which come under review again last weekend.

The Group of Five (G-5) major industrialised countries — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Japan — decided in New York last year to act together to depress the dollar, a move aimed largely at restoring U.S. competitiveness and so reducing America's massive trade deficit.

A meeting of G-5 finance ministers and central bank governors is scheduled to be held in Britain on Saturday and Sunday.

The bankers, holding a routine monthly meeting at the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS) indicated the meeting would not produce any new initiatives.

"We are quite satisfied with the foreign exchange developments which have taken place," said one senior European central banker, who declined to be identified.

He said the central bankers had no target for where the dollar should be, but added: "We like it as it is."

Since the September meeting, the dollar has fallen to just under 2.50 German marks from 2.88

and has also declined against other major currencies.

The bankers did not seem unduly worried by the recent rises in American and British interest rates, which one source described as "only temporary."

In Britain, where commercial banks last week hiked base lending rates by one percentage point, the move was triggered by concern for sterling on prospects of lower oil prices.

"We hope that the trend towards lower interest rates will resume," the sources said.

A Japanese suggestion that monetary authorities should act together to bring down interest rates to stimulate national economies did not appear to find favour with the bankers.

"It seems to be more an idea of the (Japanese) government than the central bank," said one European banker.

Japan has raised interest rates in a bid to strengthen the yen against the dollar in a move which could be damaging to the Japanese economy.

There have also been suggestions, mainly from the U.S., that West Germany could do more to stimulate its economy to take over the role of economic "locomotive" from America.

But bankers here noted that with the German economy currently expanding at a strong 3.5 per cent, there was little more Bonn could do.

Turkey calls on European Community to revitalise ties

ANKARA (R) — Turkey is calling on European Community (EC) governments to revitalise relations with Ankara, scaled down after a 1980 coup here, the foreign ministry said Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Vahit Haliloglu, in notes sent to all 12 EC members except Greece, with which ties are strained, asked for a formal meeting with his EC counterparts, spokesman Mr. Yahn Eralp, told reporters.

"The aim of the letter is to rejuvenate the ties which have been frozen for five years," Mr. Eralp said. There had been no reply to the notes, sent three weeks ago, he said.

He would not comment on a report in the mass circulation daily Milliyet Tuesday that Turkey would probably apply for full membership of the EC this year.

It has the right to do so under a 1963 associate membership agreement. The agreement also provides for a Turkey-EC council of ministers to meet regularly but

there has been no meeting since before the coup.

EC diplomatic sources discounted the likelihood of an early application but said Mr. Haliloglu's move was a first step towards laying the groundwork for one.

Mr. Haliloglu's letter comes after a decision by five members of the Council of Europe, three of them EC members, to drop a complaint of human rights abuses against Turkey.

This referred to the period of military rule after the 1980 coup which also prompted the EC to scale down its ties and freeze aid worth \$400 million.

The links have yet to be revived because of doubts in Brussels about whether Turkey has returned to full democracy.

Diplomats expect Turkey's ties with the EC to be a major topic during Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's visit to London from Feb. 17 to 20, his first official visit to a Western democracy since he took office in 1983.

East African states expected to launch body to fight drought

DJIBOUTI (R) — Leaders of six East African nations meet here Wednesday to discuss the drought which has killed millions of people throughout the continent and to launch a regional body to try to prevent future disasters.

The three-day summit will bring together Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam, Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre and President Abdul Rahman Hassan Swaraddah of Sudan, whose countries are among the worst-hit by the drought and have long been at political loggerheads.

Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi is already in Djibouti for a 24-hour state visit ahead of the summit.

The summit will provide the first opportunity in nearly 10 years for direct contact between presidents Mengistu and Siad Barre following their 1977-78 war over the Ogaden, the south eastern Ethiopian region claimed by Somalia.

Ethiopia, backed by Soviet arms and Cuban troops, won the war and pushed the Somalis, who had invaded the territory, back across the border.

Djibouti officials would not comment on whether presidents Mengistu and Siad Barre would hold private talks outside the summit but officials close to the conference said there was a strong possibility they would meet.

At the end of the summit, the six leaders were expected to establish formally the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD), a grouping conceived in 1984.

A pre-summit document issued to the press said members of the body, which also groups Djibouti, Kenya and Uganda, had agreed that IGADD would be responsible for arranging short-term emergency aid for drought victims.

It would also be expected to coordinate programmes to protect the environment and stem the spread of the desert. The body would also liaise with donor countries and international organisations to boost food production which is sagging throughout Africa.

Bank of England intervenes to defuse interest rate rise

LONDON (R) — The Bank of England took swift action in the money markets Tuesday to defuse upward pressure on British interest rates, less than a week after the key base lending rate was pushed up by one percentage point to prevent a run on sterling.

Following a sharp early rise of 1/2 to 3/4 of a point in money market rates, a Bank of England spokesman said the central bank saw a further increase in base lending rates as inappropriate and was providing up to £1 billion to the banking system at a rate of 12-1/2 per cent.

Three month interbank funds, a key barometer of interest rate trends, climbed to 13-1/4 per cent

before retreating to 13 per cent after the bank's announcement.

Commercial banks' base lending rates were raised by one point to 12-1/2 per cent last Wednesday, the highest level since last July, to brake a fall in sterling's value triggered by weak oil prices.

The Bank of England announcement helped to push sterling slightly below its opening levels as the early concern over a further increase in British interest rates faded. But it made small gains against the mark, dealers said.

Dealers said trading in the British currency was still nervous and it was likely to come under renewed pressure.

S. Africa, banks must agree by March, mediator says

KARLSRUHE, West Germany (R) — South African debt mediator, Mr. Fritz Leutwiler said Tuesday it is imperative that a short-term financial package of its secured with Pretoria's 300 creditor banks by the end of March.

He told Reuters after returning from a three-day visit to South Africa that he would propose a "less ambitious" solution to the strife-torn country's debt problems than that suggested by the government, which the banks have already rejected.

Mr. Leutwiler, attending a New Year's reception for the chamber of commerce in Karlsruhe, said agreement on a financial package had to be secured by March 31.

A standstill on debt repayments imposed by South Africa expires on that date and it was clear that creditor banks had no political will to extend the deadline, Mr. Leutwiler said.

The standstill, introduced last year after bankers refused to renew lines of credit following months of violent unrest in South Africa, had been originally designed to last only until the end of 1985. However the banks agreed to an extension.

The former Swiss central banker met a number of political leaders on his trip to South Africa, including President P.W. Botha, as well as representatives of the black, coloured and Indian communities.

About \$13.6 billion of South Africa's \$24-billion foreign debt was frozen.

Pretoria has proposed to creditor banks a rescheduling of its debt which would delay repayment until 1990, but Mr. Leutwiler said it came as no surprise to him that banks clearly rejected this proposal at the end of last year.

He added: "It is not possible at this point of time and under these political circumstances to carry out a medium-to long-term rescheduling. My programme will be less ambitious than South Africa's plan."

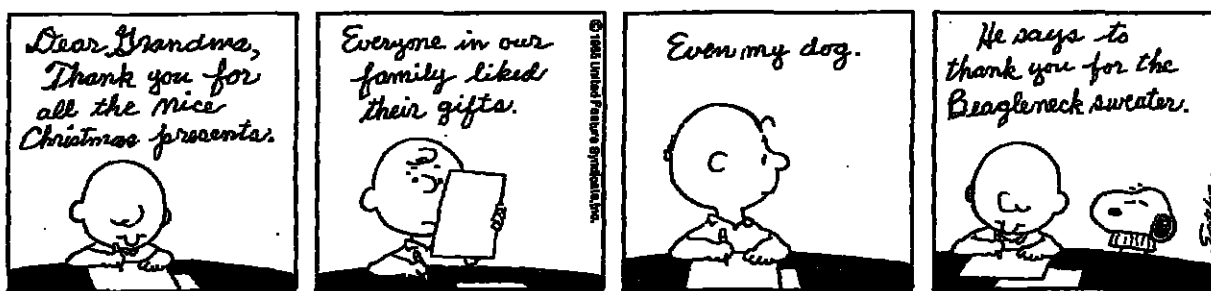
He continued: "I will propose a plan that should give South Africa calm on the financial side... calm in order to continue the process of political reform."

At a later stage, once such a short-term package was in place, creditor banks would have to look again at political developments in South Africa and see whether the country could again borrow.

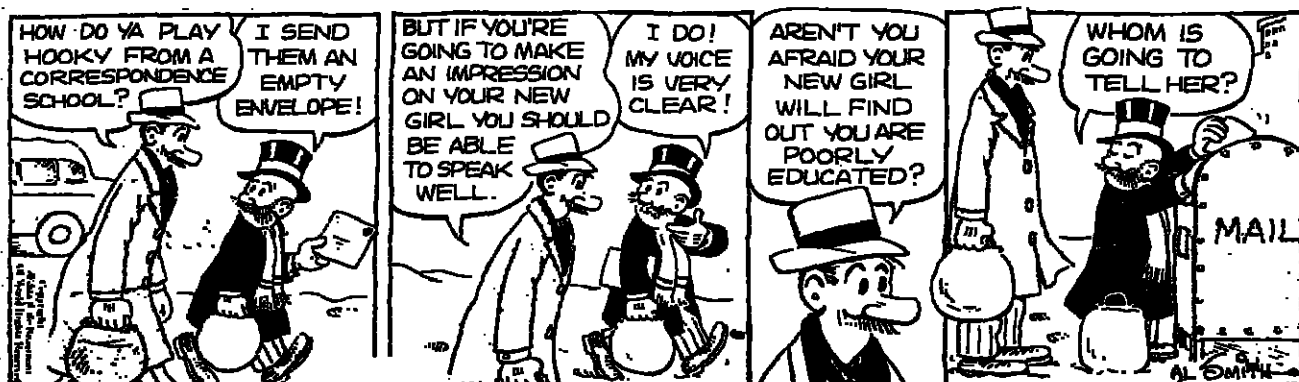
Mr. Leutwiler said he hoped Mr. Botha would set a signal for political reform in a speech he is due to make at the opening of parliament on Jan. 31.

Before his departure for Europe, he told journalists in South Africa he was confident the Pretoria government would make political reforms and give some positive signals in the not too distant future.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEBOE

VENOL

UNJAYT

LIMSAD

WHAT HIS WIFE HAD A STEADY JOB TRYING TO KEEP HIM AT.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

(Answer: Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TOXIN BLOOM REVERE LAUNCH

Answer: It's sometimes a crime to catch fish here, but more often this—A MIRACLE

Geneva U.S.-Soviet arms talks resume tomorrow

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S.-Soviet nuclear weapons negotiations reopen in Geneva on Thursday under pressure to produce progress in time for the second superpower summit expected later this year.

President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed to accelerate the negotiations when they met in Geneva in November.

That meeting, their first summit, broke the ice between the superpowers but produced no major agreements.

U.S. analysts say the second summit, to be held in the U.S., will be judged on substance rather than atmosphere and that a key index of success will be movement on arms control on which both leaders called for early progress.

Mr. Reagan wants the summit in June but Moscow is said to want to delay it until the autumn, which would allow more time to seek some agreement.

U.S. officials believe the best hopes for progress lie in negotiations on medium-range missiles where Moscow has hinted it might be willing to reach a separate agreement not tied to accords on long-range missiles and space weapons.

As negotiators meet in Geneva, the American side will be prepared to hear Soviet reaction to new U.S. proposals but will not bring with them any concessions on Mr. Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defence research programme.

Mr. Gorbachev has continued

to attack the strategic defence initiative (SDI), as the programme is formally known, declaring that progress in arms control is possible only if "space strike armaments" are barred.

The United States says it seeks a Soviet commitment to explore how a cooperative transition from offensive to defensive weapons could be accomplished.

Much of the Geneva summit was taken up with the argument over "Star Wars," which Mr. Reagan sees as giving mankind hope for a protective shield against nuclear weapons.

Last year's three negotiating sessions, which began in March following a 15-month break, made little progress. But both sides presented new proposals for 50 per cent cuts in the strategic nuclear arsenals, each using a different basis.

On medium range weapons, the United States has proposed capping Pershing-2 and cruise missile deployments in Western Europe at 140 launchers in return for agreement from the Soviet Union to put the same limit on its SS-20 missile launchers aimed at Europe.

But if the Soviet Union is willing to reduce its total force of SS-20 warheads in Europe to between 420 and 450 the Americans could

agree on a mix of missiles that would provide an equal number of American warheads.

This could include reduction of the 108 single warhead Pershing-2s in West Germany which Moscow regards as most threatening because they can reach Soviet territory in about 10 minutes, far more quickly than the slow-flying cruises.

Looming in the background as the talks resume are policy tussles in Washington that could have a heavy impact in Geneva.

Arms control officials are looking with anxiety at a new law designed to reduce the U.S. government's massive budget deficits. They fear that if Congress votes to slash defence spending the U.S. position in Geneva could be undercut.

Meanwhile, deep divisions remain within the administration on the value of arms control agreements with Moscow.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has been trumpeting alleged Soviet violations of the 1979 SALT 2 treaty and wants the United States to retaliate.

Around April, Mr. Reagan will be faced with a crucial decision — whether to dismantle, mothball or keep in service two Poseidon submarines that would be illegal under the treaty when a new Trident submarine starts its trials.

Pro-arms-control groups believe Mr. Reagan will decide to continue to abide by the treaty, which was never ratified by the United States.

Pakistani parties reopen offices

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan's opposition parties are reopening their offices and setting up new ones despite uncertainty over their legality following the lifting of martial law, party leaders said on Tuesday.

The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has opened about 100 offices in the southern province of Sindh since President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq ended eight-and-a-half years of martial law on Dec. 30, Pyrali Ajjana, a leading PPP figure, said.

The moderate Tehrik-I-Istiqbal party and right-wing Jamiat-ul-Ulema-I-Pakistan (JUP) celebrated together on Sunday after breaking open the wax-sealed locks on their offices in the same central Karachi building.

Police locked and sealed party offices all over Pakistan in October 1979 when General Zia cancelled elections for a second time and banned all parties and political activity.

Shevardnadze expected to focus on bilateral relations during Tokyo visit

MOSCOW (AP) — Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze on Wednesday begins the highest-level Soviet visit to Japan in a decade, but reports in the Soviet media suggest the Kremlin does not expect this trip to resolve major differences.

Mr. Shevardnadze is expected instead to focus on ways of improving Soviet-Japanese trade ties, especially high technology imports that would assist Communist Party chief Mikhail S. Gorbachev's campaign to modernise Soviet industry.

The five-day visit to Japan is the first by a Soviet foreign minister since January 1976, when elder statesman Andrei A. Gromyko was in Tokyo.

In keeping with the Kremlin's increased emphasis on relations with the Far East over the past year, Mr. Shevardnadze will also visit North Korea and Mongolia. He will be the highest-ranking Kremlin official to visit those countries in some 20 years.

The Japan visit has been portrayed here as the result of a general thaw in international relations associated with the U.S.-Soviet summit last November.

But Soviet officials and the media have made a point of blaming Tokyo for the two nations' troubled relations since World War II, and no suggestions have surfaced from Moscow that a major turnaround is in the offing.

"The Soviet Union and Japan are neighbours and historically the fact that we are neighbours has brought us more trouble than cooperation," Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa commented at a press conference on Soviet-Asian affairs last week. "But experience has shown we cannot divorce each other."

Mr. Kapitsa said Soviet-Japanese relations, normalised in 1956, suffered shortly afterwards because "Japan put these relations in the refrigerator."

He credited Soviet initiatives and a general improvement in the international climate since the Geneva summit for warming up Soviet-Japanese relations and said there are now opportunities for improving economic ties and mutual understanding.

Mr. Kapitsa said trade and military concerns would be discussed during Mr. Shevardnadze's visit.

but made no reference to the long-standing dispute over ownership of four islands of the Kurile chain that stretch between Japan and the Soviet Union's Far Eastern Kamchatka peninsula.

The Soviet media have been more direct in suggesting that the territorial dispute should not weigh down Mr. Shevardnadze's talks in Japan.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda on Sunday described as an "unfriendly action" Japan's claim to the islands. The dispute has prevented the two nations from signing a peace treaty after World War II.

On Monday, the official news agency TASS warned that the basis for Soviet-Japanese dialogue should be "a quest for ways of lessening tension... rather than an emphasis on problems on which the sides differ or on any far-fetched issues."

"Everything depends on the Japanese side," it said.

TASS repeated the Soviet desire for a cooperation treaty, confidence-building measures and a pact that would formalise Japan's non-nuclear status.

Israeli immigration emissaries emigrate

TEL AVIV (AP) — An investigating committee says that 12 emissaries of the World Zionist Organisation whose job it was to encourage immigration to Israel have left the country over the past five years. Their emigration should be remembered as a "disgrace," said the report, which was commissioned by the World Zionist Organisation and published by a committee headed by the former president of Israel's supreme court. The report described the emissaries as "having failed in their mission to the point of treason."

The report says that the organisation, a joint Israeli-World Jewish body dealing with Zionist affairs, had 722 emissaries serving abroad at a cost of \$15 million as of September 1985. The Zionist movement has traditionally used emissaries to encourage Jews to immigrate to Israel.

54,836 Chinese sentenced for corruption, fraud

PEKING (R) — Chinese courts sentenced 54,836 people on charges of corruption, speculation, fraud and theft of public property in the first 11 months of last year, the overseas edition of the People's Daily said Tuesday. It said courts had tried more than 42,000 such cases and that the state had recovered more than 140 million yuan (\$44 million) in stolen funds in the same period. The newspaper gave no figures for the same period of 1984. The revelations follow tough speeches by top leaders last week hitting out at lack of discipline, corruption and dishonesty among officials. Some of the speeches, given before 8,000 senior cadres, were broadcast on national television.

"This happens not in Poland, not in Bulgaria, not in Cuba, this happens in New York," he added. Ms. Gordiner said she was so upset by the invitation to Mr. Shultz by PEN's American President Norman Mailer that she boycotted opening ceremonies Sunday night at the New York Public Library.

The sound system at the ceremony was so bad and the hissing from the assembled writers so loud at times that few people could hear what Mr. Shultz had to say. The hisses peaked when Mr. Shultz said, "Don't be surprised by the fact that Ronald Reagan and I are on your side."

"What chance the Sandinista government has to evolve towards democratic community is sabotaged by (the) U.S. administration's subsidy of the war of Contras," the petition said in part.

Mystery bags baffle Cypriot police

LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — Hundreds of bags thrown into the sea from a small boat off Cyprus and spotted by the crew of a French warship are mystifying police — because they appear to contain nothing suspicious. "The bags are not believed to contain drugs or explosives but laboratory analysts of the contents continues," a police bulletin said on Monday. The commander of the warship reported the incident last Saturday and delivered one of the bags to Cypriot authorities, police sources said. They said a preliminary chemical analysis showed that the bag contained finely ground stone and a small quantity of an undetermined substance. Cypriot police launched a helicopter from a British base failed to find the mystery boat in a search on Sunday.

Dhaka cracks down on prostitutes, pimps

DHAKA (R) — At least 4,000 prostitutes and about the same number of pimps have been arrested in Bangladesh in the past three months, police said. A Dhaka police officer said the crackdown was ordered after the government shut brothels in Dhaka and nearby Narayanganj, forcing thousands of prostitutes onto the streets. But he told Reuters that most of those arrested had managed to escape from custody and go back to work. "They (the prostitutes) now dominate the twilight zones of the main cities and often prey on innocent citizens through the night," said the officer. "Many of them have also regrouped in the old red-light districts and have been doing brisk business again."

Leech gets status of endangered species

NEW DELHI (AP) — The lowly, loathsome, unloved leech — an aquatic bloodsucking worm — has become a luminary of the laboratory, an endangered denizen of the swamp being bred in captivity. The World Wildlife Fund of India said in a statement that despite almost universal revulsion, a century of neglect and efforts at extermination, the leech is being used in Europe by hospital physicians. Efforts are under way to save the worm from extinction in the wild and to breed it for medical blood-drawing purposes, it said. The Press Trust of India quoted the wildlife fund in Bombay as saying that leeches are back in hospitals. Some plastic surgeons apply them directly to facilitate blood flow and researchers use leeches to extract chemical compounds and anti-coagulants from them.

Argentines stage protest against Rockefeller's visit

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — About 2,000 people protested a visit by banker David Rockefeller, burning a U.S. flag, setting a car afire and smashing windows on Monday before being dispersed by police firing tear gas and rubber bullets.

A local news agency reported at least 20 arrests were made and five people were treated at hospitals for injuries following the clashes outside the American Club in downtown Buenos Aires and along nearby streets.

The Socialist and Communist parties and a youth wing of the Peronist Party had called for the demonstration, claiming the

American banker had maintained friendly relations with the military juntas that ruled Argentina from 1976 to December 1983 when an elected government was installed.

A small group of demonstrators marched about 10 blocks to the Sheraton Hotel, where Mr. Rockefeller was reported to be staying. They smashed three windows at the entrance to the hotel before police drove them back into the street.

Mr. Rockefeller was presiding over a two-day meeting of the U.S.-based Americas Society, a private group, to study strategies for growth in debt-ridden Latin America.

Canada confirms request for asylum by Indian diplomat

OTTAWA (AP) — An Indian diplomat attached to the Indian consulate general in Toronto has requested refugee status for himself, his wife and two children, a Canadian External Affairs official confirmed on Monday.

The diplomat, Inderjit Singh Bindra, who had been attached to the consulate since 1982, asked the External Affairs Department last week to cancel his diplomatic status and the Canadian ministry did so on Friday, spokesman Rene Thibault said.

He said the action paved the way for a request for refugee status.

The Canadian television station CJOH on Monday said Mr. Bindra had balked at orders to infiltrate and spy on a Sikh organisation in Toronto and that he thus faced reprisals in India for not doing so.

Government officials declined to comment on the televised report.

Contacted by the Canadian press, Mr. Bindra said: "My life is in danger in India and I won't talk

to any press." Indian officials have expressed concerns that extremist groups in India have received backing from Canadian Sikhs.

Sikh extremists claimed responsibility for the downing of an Air India Jet that crashed into the Irish sea last June en route from Toronto and Montreal to Bombay, killing 329 people on board.

Last month, during an official visit to New Delhi, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark tried to mend some fences with the Indian government by signing a full extradition treaty with India and endorsing closer co-operation between the two countries intelligence operations.

Before the visit, Canada lifted a 17-month moratorium on deporting Indian nationals, most of them Sikhs, who have been refused refugee status by the immigration department.

Sikh community leaders argued that lifting the ban was premature because of continuing violence in the Sikhs' native Punjab province.

Gromyko pays visit to Moscow suburbs, hears complaints

MOSCOW (AP) — President Andrei A. Gromyko visited outlying regions of Moscow over the past week and heard complaints about food shortages, a hospital in bad need of repair and clothes that are ugly and out of style, according to published reports.

Mr. Gromyko heard housewives complain about shortages of meat, stylish shoes and other goods in Moscow shops.

Pursuing a campaign to improve the country's service sector, the veteran of nearly 30 years of international diplomacy spent investigated shops, wholesale suppliers and hospitals in the city, Soviet Television reported.

It said he talked to shoppers, sales staff and people working in the service industries, hearing complaints ranging from mototous hospital food to poor packaging of sugar.

Last week the ruling Communist Party called for better service and higher quality consumer goods for consumers in the Russian Republic and the Moscow City leadership complained of cuts in the supply of milk products and eggs.

According to a fuller report by the official news agency TASS, Mr. Gromyko, 76, was told by medical staff at hospital number 52 in the Voroshilovsky district that two wings had been out of action for years in need of repairs.

The trip seemed to be part of Kremlin leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's promise to air complaints and problems more openly.

Mr. Gorbachev, who has made similar forays of his own, has repeatedly called for improvements in the quality, assortment and availability of clothing and other consumer items instead of the current system of spot shortages.

In 1985, Mr. Gorbachev visited a hospital, a factory, stores, a school and a working couple's apartment in Moscow. He also travelled to other cities, including Leningrad and the oil-producing centre Tyumen.

The self-described bus-

elaborate.

State-run Radio Lesotho reported on Tuesday that South Africa had declared a "total embargo" on Lesotho's oil and other essential goods, including medicines, since Monday.

It said transport and rail services bringing in commodities from South Africa to Lesotho had been halted on the South African side of the border.

Lesotho, which denied harbouring African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas fighting to overthrow the South African government, says South Africa imposed the blockade in retaliation for a United Nations Security Council resolution unanimously condemning Pretoria for a raid on Maseru last month in which nine people died.

South Africa said it had nothing to do with the raid.

Greenpeace faces impenetrable ice in Ross Sea

SYDNEY (R) — The Greenpeace environmentalist group, under fire from Australia and New Zealand for sending a converted tug to the Antarctic, said on Tuesday the vessel had come up against impenetrable pack ice.

Expedition director Peter Wilkinson told Reuters by phone from the boat — the group's flagship — in the Antarctic that it met the ice in the Ross Sea about 190 kilometres from McMurdo sound.

A private British expedition support ship, Southern Quest, was sunk by pack ice and its crew rescued in the Ross Sea on Saturday about 100 kilometres from the

American and New Zealand bases at McMurdo.

"We simply can't get through ... the fast ice around McMurdo is supposed to be about eight to 10 feet (2.4 to three metres) thick and there are even doubts about whether it is going to break up at all," Mr. Wilkinson said.

The Greenpeace, delayed by unseasonably thick pack ice earlier this month for more than a week after leaving Sydney in mid-December, must decide whether to head north away from the ice, Mr. Wilkinson said.

"Our skipper is very safety conscious and wants us to go north out of the outer pack ice," he added.

Reputed new chief of mafia makes public debut

NEW YORK (R) — John Gotti made his public debut as reputed new head of the biggest mafia family in the United States on Monday and said the only family he bossed was his wife and two children.

The stocky ex-convict, who has been portrayed as fearful of flying but fast with his fists, appeared in a courtroom where a U.S. judge ordered him to stand trial in Brooklyn on April 7 on racketeering and murder charges.

His appearance came after a flurry on weekend law agency reports that he had just taken over as head of the 1,000-strong Gambino family, the largest and wealthiest U.S. crime group, with estimated illegal profits of \$100 million a year.

"I am the boss of my family — my wife and my kids at home," the 45-year-old Gotti told the dozens of reporters who turned out for his appearance in the sixth-floor courtroom.

The self-described bus-

inessman, dressed in a tailored grey suit and striped tie, had first pointed to the journalists and was overheard telling a companion: "They get a kick out of playing kid games."

He later rushed to open a courtroom door for a woman reporter, saying: "I was brought up to hold doors open for ladies."

Gotti has been a public figure since Dec. 16 when reigning Gambino boss, Paul ("Big Paul") Castellano was shot dead on a Manhattan street while about to alight from a limousine to dine at a fashionable steak house.

Law enforcement agents immediately pegged Gotti, a long-time rival of the ageing Castellano, as prime contender for the top job.

Gotti had refused to speak to reporters over the last month. He released a statement through his lawyer denying involvement in the Castellano murder.

He appeared in court on Monday with his younger brother and

five other men who are charged with three murders and several truck hijackings and armed robberies dating from 1968.

Gotti, who is free on \$1 million bail in the case, also faces local charges in Queens for robbery and assault. The charges were filed by a man who told police he was beaten and robbed when he honked his horn at a car that was blocking his way.

In 1974, Gotti pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the killing of a man who was suspected of murdering the nephew of Carlo Gambino, the head of the mafia family bearing his name until his death of natural causes in 1976. Gotti served two years of a four-year sentence.

In profiles of Gotti which they say are based on informers and electronic surveillance, lawmen describe him as a leader strongly backed by lower echelon mobsters called soldiers, who carry out day-to-day operations.

Britain, France plan urgent talks on channel link

LONDON (R) — Britain and France are planning urgent talks to beat next Monday's deadline for a decision on whether to build a tunnel or bridge across the English Channel — an idea first mooted by emperor Napoleon in 1802.

In what was billed as a crucial meeting here on Monday, British Transport Minister Nicholas Ridley and his French counterpart Jean Auroux were unable to decide on one of four rival schemes to link Britain with the rest of Europe.

British officials said the two ministers would have to talk again before Monday when Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and President Francois Mitterrand meet in France to name the winning project.

The two ministers refused to give details of their talks but industry sources said they were divided over whether to choose a rail link or a combined rail and road tunnel. Mr. Ridley was nevertheless optimistic. Asked if a scheme would be chosen by the deadline, he said: "I think so."

Mr. Auroux told reporters: "We are making history. It takes several meetings to make history."

It was the ministers' second attempt to narrow their choice to one of the four privately-funded projects to span or tunnel the 35-kilometre straits between Britain and France.

The schemes for a fixed link range from an all-rail tunnel under the channel to a road bridge over it. Channel Tunnel Group, proposing a twin-bore rail tunnel which will allow shuttle trains to carry vehicles, is one of the front-runners. The plan, favoured by France, would cost £2.3 billion (\$3.3 billion). The French see this as a way of expanding their high-speed train network.

Britain prefers the channel expressway, a £2.5 billion (\$3.6 billion) twin road and rail scheme, which it says will enable the two forms of transport to compete.

France says the cost of the channel expressway has been underestimated.

In Geneva, the International Road Transport Union urged the two countries on Monday to choose a scheme combining road and rail links.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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A PROBLEM FOR BOTH
North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ 1032
♦ QJ
♦ A76542
♦ 82

WEST
♦ QJ784
♦ ♠ 9
♦ ♣ 109765

EAST
♦ AK985
♦ ♠ 743
♦ ♣ Q83
♦ ♠ Q

SOUTH
♦ ♠ 109652
♦ K10
♦ A43

The bidding:
South 1♣, North 2♣, East 3♣, South 4♣, West 5♣, East 6♣, Pass.

Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

Every once in a while, a perfect problem hand turns up in the random deals used in tournament bridge. Decide whether you would rather play or defend six hearts.

When this hand was dealt in the Life Master Pair Championship at a North American Championship, most East-West pairs elected to sacrifice at six spades rather than defend six hearts. That was not a wise decision, for where six hearts was declared, it was defeated in

most cases. Declarer ruffed the opening lead, and invariably played the ace of clubs and another. Where East was awake, he ruffed his partner's club trick and returned a trump, and the declarer found that he had only one trump with which to ruff two club losers.

Although he could set up the diamonds, the fact that trumps were 4-0 meant that there was no way to draw all of East's trumps and use the good diamonds.

Successful technique is to set up the diamonds first by cashing the king-ace and ruffing a diamond in the closed hand. Now declarer leads the ace of clubs and another. To stop declarer from ruffing two clubs on the table, East must still ruff and return a trump. But now declarer has an elegant counter—he simply leads winning diamonds from the board.

East can ruff whenever he desires, but declarer can overruff, enter dummy with the remaining trump while drawing East's last trump, and take club discards on the good diamonds.

At double-dummy, therefore, you should choose to declare six hearts. However, we doubt that any declarer ever thought of the winning line at the table.

BBC plans satellite television world service

By Richard Brooks

LONDON — The BBC plans a news and current affairs television service to be broadcast around the world. The corporation would use three existing satellites for the programmes. These would be similar in concept to some of the BBC external services' radio programmes. The first pilot programme would go out next year. If it is successful a full service would follow within 12 months.

Initial funding is likely to come from the Foreign Office, which already finances the external services at an annual rate of £90m. The Foreign Office met several senior BBC staff last week, including at least two heads of management members, Austin Kark, managing director, external services, and Bryce McCrick, director of BBC engineering.

Afterwards a Foreign Office spokesman said: "The Foreign Office does not want Britain to be left behind other countries in the use of satellite television, and the way it can be used to spread news, information and education around the world." The American and French governments are already financing satellite television news programmes.

Foreign Office ministers are well aware of the BBC's plans; the under-secretary of state, Tim Eggar, whose responsibilities include external services, is particularly interested. Recently there has been a marked improvement in relations between the BBC and the Foreign Office, which last November helped the external services by giving them a three-year budget rather than an

annual one to sid planning.

The BBC set up a five-man committee six weeks ago to look at external television broadcasting by satellite. The committee, drawn from external services, television engineering, and corporate news and current affairs, will report to Alasdair Milne, the BBC director-general, by the end of the month.

It will recommend a pilot scheme funded by FO money, and make it clear that co-operation with other West European broadcasters and other news organisations will be needed too, particularly after the pilot. The report will also say that in the longer term the world television service must become self-financing, by sales to other broadcasters or cable companies.

Talks will be held tomorrow

between the committee and Visnews, the international film news agency, and Reuters. The BBC is a shareholder in Visnews and uses it for much of its foreign news film.

The most likely format at least for the pilot would be a 30-minute programme, with 10 minutes of news followed by 20 minutes of current affairs. That formula is similar to Radio 4's The World at One, or the World Service's 24 Hours. The programme would be beamed over the Far East, Middle East and Europe, and possibly America.

The cost of renting a satellite is not prohibitive particularly as it would be for only a few hours. The BBC is working on figures of between £5m and £10m for the project, including an annual satellite rental of about £3m — The Sunday Times.